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# Latin America Report

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22 August 1980

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BRAZIL, CHILE EXAMINE MARITIME COOPERATION POTENTIAL

Rio de Janeiro O GLOBO in Portuguese 19 Jul 80 p 19

[Text] Brasilia--Brazil and Chile are studying possible cooperation to develop the maritime lines of the two countries in the Pacific and Atlantic Oceans. The talks are being held by business groups from the two countries, represented in the case of Brazil by Brazilinvest.

The basic concept involves the use of Chilean maritime lines by Brazilian groups interested in exporting to the Asian countries, since Chile has enterprises which have routes to Australia. The Chilean exporters in turn would utilize Brazilian lines to export raw materials to Africa and Europe.

The two countries are trying, on the business level, to establish still further complementary roles in the automotive parts sector (a part of what Brazil ships would remain in Chile, a heavy importer of replacement parts), while the Brazilian importers would increase their purchases of cellulose (\$27 million U.S. last year) and newsprint (\$12 million U.S. in 1979), as well as other products.

On the government level, the foreign offices of the two countries are studying possible technical cooperation in the biomass sector. Chile, with large forest reserves, wants access to Brazilian technology, in exchange for know-how about the control of forest fires developed by that country.

The two countries are further studying oil cooperation (the production director of PETROBRAS [Brazilian Petroleum Corporation], Marques Neto, will travel to Santiago next month) through an agreement to be signed between PETROBRAS and the National Petroleum Enterprise (ENAP), whose president, Ernesto Silva, will visit Brazil before the end of the year. Cooperation is to be made concrete on the level of machines supplied by Brazil in exchange for prospecting areas in the extreme southern part of Chile, as well as gas.

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CSO: 3001

DOMINICAN CONSUL WARNS OF PUERTO RICAN BORDER SURVEILLANCE

Santo Domingo EL NACIONAL in Spanish 13 Apr 80 p 3

[Excerpts] The Dominican consul in San Juan, Puerto Rico, has warned that authorities of that island have stepped up coastal surveillance to prevent the entry of unauthorized vessels.

Mr Luis A. Lopez also warned that persons arrested for trying to enter the neighboring island illegally "are not subject to better treatment due to their status as foreigners."

Lopez made an appeal to Dominicans not to risk going to Puerto Rico illegally in yawls or other boats.

The consular official said that persons crossing the Mona Passage are taking great risks.

"The venture which often ends tragically with the drowning of the participants also holds other risks, from fraud and swindling by unscrupulous operators to arrest on the island's coast," Lopez added.

He pointed out that it was his duty to warn his fellow countrymen and to urge them not to allow themselves to be taken in "by adventurers and irresponsible people promoting this type of business."

Lopez said he hoped that his message would reach all Dominican citizens and that it would be considered brotherly advice which would help to correct what he describes as a "very serious situation."

Many Dominicans have lost their lives trying to enter Puerto Rico illegally when the boats in which they were crossing the Mona Passage capsized.

Many Dominicans generally leave from the coast at Miches, Sabana de la Mar, Higuey and La Romana, heading for the Puerto Rican coast at Mayaguez and disembarking clandestinely.

Many are apprehended by the island's authorities and returned to their country. Others manage to escape surveillance, but generally obtain very low-paying jobs on farms in the rural area of western Puerto Rico.

Other Dominicans try to travel to the United States by using false documents.



## INTER-AMERICAN AFFAIRS

### BRIEFS

**ANDEAN NATIONS TO HOLD SUMMITS**--Bogota, 1 Aug (AFP)--The presidents of the Andean Pact countries, except for that of Bolivia, have agreed to hold two summits this year to analyze integration problems, it was learned here today. The first summit will be held in Cochabamba, Ecuador, in the next few days on the occasion of the 150th anniversary of that country's independence. The other summit will be held in Santa Marta, Colombia, on 17 December on the 150th anniversary of the death of the liberator of the Andean countries, Caracas-born Simon Bolivar. The Andean Pact includes Colombia, Ecuador, Peru, Venezuela and Bolivia, but it is uncertain whether Bolivia will attend the scheduled summits. It has been reported here that everything will depend on whether Bolivia remains a part of the integration process and on the recognition of the military government which toppled President Lidia Gueller a few weeks ago. According to reports here today, a third summit will be held in Caracas on 24 July 1983 on the occasion of the bicentennial of Bolivar's birth. [Text] [PA021253 Paria AFP in Spanish 1638 GMT 1 Aug 80]

CS01 3010

MADRID POLICE IDENTIFY SUSPECTS IN WOMAN'S DEATH

Buenos Aires LA PRENSA in Spanish 24 Jul 80 p 2

[Text] Two men of Argentine nationality are the principal suspects in the murder of a woman, whose body was discovered today in a Madrid apartment.

This information was released to the EFE news agency by the police, who base their suspicions on documents found at the scene of the crime.

The victim, approximately 50 years ago, was found half nude in the bedroom of the apartment in advance state of decomposition.

According to the police, the woman carried an Argentine passport in the name of Maria del Carmen Sainz believed to be false.

Identity

As to the identity of the suspects, police are focusing their investigation on Julio Cesar Ramirez, who rented the apartment and consequently had to turn in the passport to do so.

Ramirez is accompanied by a friend, also of Argentine nationality, whose identity has yet to be established.

The events occurred last Sunday, when the two men visited the woman at her apartment. Later they ordered some drinks and placed a "Do Not Disturb" sign on the door.

It is believed the murder took place early Sunday morning and that the suspect escaped through the window. The body was not discovered until the cleaning service person entered the apartment, having noted the sign on the door was still there after 2 days and having detected a disagreeable odor emanating from within. [Madrid, EFE]

CSO: 3010

## BRIEFS

PEASANT AFFAIRS MINISTRY OFFICIALS--Col Ricardo Ardiles and Willy Roman were sworn in yesterday as under secretary of agricultural affairs and under secretary of peasant affairs, respectively, of the Peasant Affairs Ministry. [PY301845 La Paz EL DIARIO in Spanish 26 Jul 80 p 5]

NEW INTERIOR MINISTRY AUTHORITIES--The Interior Ministry last night issued the list of prefects and mayors that have been appointed and confirmed throughout the country. The list of prefects is as follows: La Paz, Col Guido Suarez Castellon; Cochabamba, Lt Col Javier Pantoja Rodriguez; Santa Cruz, Oscar Roman Vaca; Chuquisaca, Col Remberto Torres Lazarte (ret); Potosi, Lt Col German Venegas Picolet; Tarija, Lt Col Otto Lopez Murillo; Oruro, Maj Abel Elias Sainz; Beni, Col Francisco Monroy Encinas; and Pando, Capt Mariano Capobianco. The list of mayors is as follows: La Paz, Raul Salmon de La Barra; Cochabamba, Lt Col Guillermo Loayza Ramon; Santa Cruz, Lt Col Luis F. Lopez Basigalupo; Chuquisaca, Maj German Ambelunge Ferreira; Potosi, Maj Jose Carvalho Davila; Tarija, Lt Col Edmundo Lara Gonzalez; Oruro, Lt Col Reynaldo Vasquez Sempertegui; Beni, Capt Julio Jimenez Valdivia; Pando, Lt Col Ricardo Terrazas. [PY301838 La Paz EL DIARIO in Spanish 23 Jul 80 p 1]

NEW URBAN DEVELOPMENT SECRETARY--Walter Prado was sworn in yesterday as under secretary of urban development of the Housing and Urban Development Ministry. [PY302050 La Paz EL DIARIO in Spanish 25 Jul 80 p 5]

NEW PLANNING MINISTRY AUTHORITIES--Planning and Coordination Minister Oscar Larrain yesterday swore in Jorge Arteaga, Alejandro Pacheco, and Reynaldo Fernandez, as under secretaries of the Planning and Coordination Ministry. [PY302050 La Paz EL DIARIO in Spanish 26 Jul 80 p 3]

NEW TELEPHONE COMPANY DIRECTOR--Col Francisco Vasquez Aleman was sworn in yesterday as the new general manager of the Automatic Telephones Enterprise (TASA). [La Paz PRESENCIA in Spanish 23 Jul 80 p 5]

NEW NUCLEAR, SMELTING OFFICIALS--Maj Eduardo Quiroga and Capt Edgar Ampuero assumed yesterday their duties as general managers of the National Smelting Enterprise (ENAP) and the Bolivian Nuclear Energy Commission (COBEN), respectively. [La Paz EL DIARIO in Spanish 26 Jul 80 p 5]

NEW TRANSPORTATION MINISTRY AUTHORITIES--Transportation Minister Rene Guzman has appointed Rolando Chiappe Zambrana and Gen Federico Cananovas (ret) as under secretaries of communications and transportation, respectively. [La Paz PRESENCIA in Spanish 25 Jul 80 p 8]

NEW YPPB GENERAL MANAGER--The energy and hydrocarbons minister, Capt Lider Sosa yesterday swore in Col Oscar Villa Urioste as the new general manager of the Bolivian Government Oil Deposits (YPPB). [La Paz EL DIARIO in Spanish 26 Jul 80 p 3]

NEW INCOME TAX DEPARTMENT DIRECTOR--Brig Gen Alejandro Arandia Prudencio was sworn in yesterday as general director of the Income Tax Department. [La Paz PRESENCIA in Spanish 23 Jul 80 p 5]

NEW INTERIOR MINISTRY UNDER SECRETARIES--The Interior Ministry has appointed Daniel Salamanca as interior under secretary; Ariel Cervajal, as justice under secretary; and Ernesto Leon as immigration secretary. [La Paz PRESENCIA in Spanish 23 Jul 80 p 5]

NEW FOREIGN MINISTRY UNDER SECRETARY--Foreign Minister Javier Cerruto Calderon swore in yesterday the new Foreign Ministry under secretary, Marcelo Ostria Trigo. [La Paz PRESENCIA in Spanish 23 Jul 80 p 5]

CSG: 3010

## BRAZIL

### WEAPONS TRANSACTIONS WITH CHINA IN PROGRESS

#### Delegation Visits China

Sao Paulo VOLHA DE SAO PAULO in Portuguese 12 Jul 80 p 5

[Text] Brasilia--An ENGERA (Specialized Engineers, Inc) delegation will travel to Beijing, where it will complete agreements negotiated between that enterprise and the Chinese mission which visited Brazil several months ago for the supply of Brazilian military equipment to China. This report was released informally yesterday by Chinese embassy secretary in Brasilia Xiao Rujin.

The secretary did not want to go into further detail, stressing that the delegation representing the Brazilian munitions industry will be headed by the president of ENGERA himself. He explained that negotiations are well along.

ENGESA, as an armaments industry, supplies equipment coming in the category of light armored vehicles for all types of terrain, for problems involving domestic clashes or frontier protection operations. The weapons producers in this category most irritated with Brazil are the Spaniards, who "lost some sales" because of Brazilian penetration. At the end of last year, the periodical DEFENSA, regarded as the official organ of the Spanish military on the weapons supply level, carried a long study on the penetration of Brazilian weaponry, referring to ENGERA as an innovator in the production of armored and light equipment.

The Chinese have very antiquated military equipment for conventional warfare. They have adapted and perfected it. Their weapons industry is that which was established by the Soviets prior to the political break which occurred in the relations between the two countries. The Chinese believe that the best means of avoiding war is to prepare for it. The purchase of Brazilian weapons, which may end up on the Sino-Soviet frontier, is evidence that they are persuaded of their good quality.



### Chinese Correspondent Arrives

Sao Paulo FOLHA DE SAO PAULO in Portuguese 9 Jul 80 p 5

[Text] Brasilia--Pang Bingan arrived here on the 26th of last month and began the first bureaucratic procedures for accreditation with the Itamaraty Palace. However it was not until yesterday that he began his work as the Chinese journalist dispatched to Brazil by the NEW CHINA NEWS AGENCY to serve as permanent correspondent.

He spent 3 years in Mexico, speaks creditable Spanish, but needs an interpreter with him. One of the easiest aspects of his coming to Brazil was application for a visa at the Brazilian embassy in Beijing. He said it was "granted immediately."

When asked about the role of the Chinese journalist in Chinese society, or how his work is done, Bingan answered in philosophical and Oriental fashion that "the journalist is like a doctor. He takes the wrist of society and tests its pulse."

5157

CNO: 3001

BRAZIL

SÃO PAULO GOVERNOR EXPRESSES VIEWS

Rio de Janeiro JORNAL DO BRASIL in Portuguese 13 Jul 80 p 8

[Interview with São Paulo Governor Paulo Maluf, in São Paulo, date not given]

[Text] After admitting that his life was studied in detail "as that of no one else ever has been" before he was installed in the government of São Paulo, Mr Paulo Maluf told JORNAL DO BRASIL that Brazil's nuclear plants numbers 4 and 5 are planned for 1990. "Thus they will not be inaugurated by my successor, but by his successor."

Throughout the interview, the governor expressed irritation and refused to answer questions about such episodes as the violence against representatives of the opposition in the itinerant government in the OP parish, insisting that "we will not lower the level of this interview." He was also very irritated at a reference to the Lutfalla case, which led him to admit: "If there were any doubt remaining about the Lutfalla case, or any attitude of mine in an earlier public office, I would emerge the winner, but would not pursue it."

Mr Paulo Maluf criticized the unflexible policy of PETROBRAS [Brazilian Petroleum Corporation] with regard to risk contracts, and was very optimistic about the electoral potential of the government in São Paulo. "The PDS [Social Democratic Party] is running the risk of being the only party in the state," he said at one point, and at another, he gave assurance that "the PDS is the greatest political force in São Paulo and will continue to be after the 1982 elections." He also criticized the studies by such institutes as Gallup revealing his unpopularity, asserting that only some 30 "itinerant members of the opposition" like them.

[Question] Can you cite an important undertaking by your government?

[Answer] One of the major projects of the government involves energy. Moreover, this is a Brazilian problem. Of all that Brazil exports, a single product, crude oil, accounts for 55 percent. The matter became critical

because Brazil cannot continue to import 80 percent of its oil, because in this way the oil will not be ours. The oil is not ours today. The nationalists, with a small n, with their "the oil is ours" campaign, allowed the oil to continue to belong to the Arabs. The oil is only ours if it is found here.

[Question] Then do you believe that the oil belongs to the Arabs because PETROBRAS is inefficient?

[Answer] No. PETROBRAS was very right to build refineries, because before that we imported gasoline, diesel fuels, fuel oil. The first step then was to build a refinery so as not to import the finished product. Then came the fleet of oil tankers. Next we must think of distribution itself. The oil was very cheap and there was surplus production. Why would we have to produce oil at \$5 a barrel if we could buy it at \$2? Now there must be mental flexibility, and the government does not always have this. The government is very often rigid and static. When in October 1973 the world situation changed, then, I believe that there should have been a more open approach where oil was concerned too.

[Question] Was there not flexibility at that time?

[Answer] Let us turn to the facts. President Geisel undertook a more open approach. He, who had been president of PETROBRAS, announced the risk contract. This was an act of great courage, because the first step was taken by him toward an open approach and he took responsibility for it. But the international public announcements were delayed a year.

[Question] Was that delay responsible for the \$11 billion in imports? Would Brazil have had to enter the field immediately after the announcement of the risk contracts in 1973?

[Answer] I have no doubt that we should have acted more rapidly. How many companies have come to Brazil between 1973 and the present? How many have drilled and how many have found oil? Five years is a considerable period, but no one found oil. Either then there is indifference on the part of foreign companies, which would have to be established, or the risk contracts are very unfair, thus failing to arouse the interest of foreign companies. Or again, probably, the areas being offered for prospecting are not, who knows, those in which it is most likely to find oil.

[Question] What is the most viable hypothesis?

[Answer] Perhaps all three together.

[Question] Are the contracts grossly unfair?

[Answer] Well, I had one experience and I would like to say very frankly that the relationship is very good today, the relationship between the

government of Sao Paulo and PETROBRAS is optimal. The technical teams are working together. But you will recall that for a certain time Sao Paulo was considered an outsider, or even as an enemy foreign country.

[Question] Former President Getulio reacted negatively when you announced you would drill wells in Sao Paulo, did he not?

[Answer] Well, I am giving an interview, and you, as a journalist, want to get into gossip.

[Question] No, that is not the case. I am merely asking.

[Answer] No, you want to get into gossip. I am giving an interview in the constructive sense.

[Question] My question also . . .

[Answer] No, no. You are naming names. I do not want to personalize any part of this interview. We are dealing only with juristic persons. You are getting into physical persons. I could answer, but I would ask you not to reduce the level, to abandon the level of an interview in which a governor of Sao Paulo can say something useful, through your ink and paper, expensive materials. Let my words contribute to the country, and you are the tool for this. As to this matter, I would like to say that there was always full approval from former President Getulio of all my projects, throughout the time we worked together. And from President Pigueiredo as well. As with all of the presidents with whom I have worked, beginning with Castello Branco.

## Nuclear Energy

[Question] What about the nuclear plants?

[Answer] There is total harmony. For 20 years, there has been the problem of nuclear energy research. A million one hundred thousand persons are working at the Atomic Energy Institute here at the University of Sao Paulo, including 600 technicians and scientists. All of this has been financed by the government of Sao Paulo for 20 years. Sao Paulo has the technology for the production of uranium hexafluoride, or yellowcake, with no need then to pay for technology from abroad. The agreement which was to be signed with France became unnecessary. Sao Paulo does not need to pay outsiders. When the agreement was signed with the IPEN [Nuclear and Energy Research Institute] in the National Security Council 2 months ago, I said that Sao Paulo demanded access to nuclear technology, because I believe that it should be owned by the country, thanks to the capacity of its scientists. And Sao Paulo already has a body of scientists of the finest quality. We must give priority to the Brazilian scientists, and import as few as possible. As to the plants, the problem of nuclear energy

has been studied in its multiple aspects and it was decided to build plants numbers 4 and 5 here in Sao Paulo. Now why was it decided to build them here? Because Sao Paulo so requested? Or because the federal government imposed it? No, neither of these two reasons. It was decided to build them here precisely because there is a market for the consumption of electrical energy.

[Question] And with this, the contract with the French Pechney company was cancelled?

[Answer] With regard to uranium hexafluoride, yes. The growth of Sao Paulo in this century is what dictated the building of the plants in Sao Paulo. How to do it? Who will do it? Naturally, Sao Paulo wants to enter into the nuclear technology field.

[Question] But will it also demand the transfer of technology?

[Answer] Yes, yes, yes. Sao Paulo already has many scientists. I would not like the scientists who are working today at the University of Sao Paulo, at the IPEN or the IPT [Technological Research Institute] to be excluded from the process.

[Question] Within this harmony you say exists with the federal government, who took the first step toward the building of the plants here?

[Answer] The decision was a technical one. The 12 million people living here, with our industries, dictated the location. It may be 30 kilometers closer or farther away, but this does not change the position. It would have to be reasonably close to greater Sao Paulo.

[Question] But was the first step taken by the state or the federal government?

[Answer] In the study of the location, Sao Paulo demanded to enter the nuclear technology field, even if this was bad and undesirable from the electoral point of view, to get into this problem now. As an administrator, you have 4 years. You have to foresee what your state might be in 10 or 20 years.

And this entirely objectively--the energy at the end of this century and the beginning of the next will be nuclear energy for purposes of electricity. And there are 189 plants in the world today.

[Question] And when does construction begin?

[Answer] To begin with, it would be well to explain that the plants are planned for 1990. As to construction, there is a lag. The studies have yet to begin.



[Question] Will they begin during your term of office?

[Answer] Probably. But my successor will not commission the plants. It will be the successor to my successor.

[Question] Will the CESP [Sao Paulo Electric Company] be responsible for the plants?

[Answer] This is a decision which must be made by the federal government. But the desire of Sao Paulo is that it should be.

#### Purchase of Light

[Question] Is there some political connection between the purchase of Light by the CESP and the building of the nuclear plants?

[Answer] I made it clear to the Planalto Palace that Sao Paulo already has the CESP (water), the CETESB [Basic Sanitation Technology Company] (pollution control), the DAEE [Water and Electric Power Department] (flood control projects), and is not in a position to undertake overall planning, because the planning of Light was solely oriented toward water resources to operate a plant which functions on waste water. Billings is a waste-water dam. Why not undertake a joint project?

[Question] Then Light has nothing to do with the nuclear plants?

[Answer] There was no compensation, so to speak.

[Question] With the development of nuclear energy, will Sao Paulo someday be able to produce an atomic bomb?

[Answer] It is a part of the Brazilian-German agreement that nuclear energy is for peaceful purposes only.

#### Unpopular Image

[Question] To what do you attribute your unpopularity?

[Answer] Popularity is a very important thing and a public individual must seek it, because when one has support and motivation one can always improve the conditions for governing. Very frankly, here in Sao Paulo I receive support of all kinds, from people of all classes, every day. This support is significant to the point that the PSD, in the municipal sector, here in Sao Paulo, the most sensitive sector, where the base is, is likely to be the only party. Then if the popularity of the government and the governor were so low, if we could not rely on the support of the councilmen, they would be joining other parties, would they not? The largest federal bench in the Congress is the PSD bench representing Sao Paulo. We have a confident majority in the Legislative Assembly. There has been no problem

at all in getting any proposal approved, except at the very beginning of the term, for demagogic reasons.

[Question] But did you not withdraw your message proposing to change the capital?

[Answer] I was not defeated. In the case in question, the board of officers, controlled by the PMDB [Brazilian Democratic Movement Party] simply would not allow the Justice Commission to examine the matter, and then it appointed a relator who, when the time had elapsed, did not submit a report. The second and the third relators also failed to report. Maneuvers and more maneuvers. When the 85th day came, there was no more time for voting. It was a tactical problem. I withdrew the message in order to prevent its automatic rejection.

[Question] Were there restrictions imposed by Brasilia?

[Answer] No. This matter was not discussed in Brasilia.

[Question] Do you continue to promise to build a new capital?

[Answer] It is my proposal not only to build a new capital, but to continue creating new poles of development to avoid migration to Sao Paulo. Today a half million persons are living badly in Sao Paulo.

[Question] Governor, you are a politician and like all politicians you have ambitions. Are you a candidate for the presidency of the republic? Is your image a hindrance?

[Answer] If all of the leadership reflecting the party base is to be found in the PDS, I believe I can say it is because they believe in the government. If they believe in the government, the image of the government must be good. You cannot measure the image of the government by 30 itinerant individuals who, when they know that the government will be in a given district, go there too. If you attend the integration government meetings, you will see that we have 240 neighborhood friends' societies in Campo Limpo, who are happy and satisfied to deal with the governor, with the prefect. Now the 20 representatives of the PT [Labor Party], the PMDB, who are hostile and opposed—I think that this is a part of democracy. They are welcome in all governments. This will not prevent us from going to the next meeting in Ipiranga. I shall be there. One day the people will judge. And now I will give you a formula. In 1970, with Paulo Maluf as prefect of Sao Paulo, the ARENA [National Renewal Alliance] had two-thirds of the votes. In 1972, in the Municipal Chamber, the ARENA had 14 and the MDB [Brazilian Democratic Movement] 7. Thus the government can also win the election in the city of Sao Paulo.

[Question] But I asked if you were a candidate for the presidency of the republic?

[Answer] From what you can derive from this interview, I am much concerned about being a good governor for Sao Paulo.

[Question] And afterwards?

[Answer] I am much concerned with being a good governor for Sao Paulo.

[Question] Will you end your political career there?

[Answer] I am much concerned about being a good governor for Sao Paulo. Where Sao Paulo is concerned I will discuss anything.

#### Problem of Security

[Question] Governor, can we talk about the problem of violence in the itinerant government of the OP parish?

[Answer] I will respond, but this lowers the level of the interview. On this subject here please, make an appointment for sometime tomorrow and spend one, two or three hours with the state secretary of public safety.

[Question] You do not understand. The problem of security is a general one . . .

[Answer] Did you think I would discuss the Rosas de Ouro samba school where they strike people?

[Question] Let us change the approach then. As governor of Sao Paulo, do you work very much with the church in Sao Paulo, headed by Cardinal Arns?

[Answer] Let us sort things out a little. Dom Paulo Evaristo Arns is my personal friend, and I regard him highly. He is an individual who has had extensive dialog with me personally, as well as with Prefect Reynaldo de Barros and various other persons in the government. Even the state secretary of safety is a personal friend of his. Dom Paulo Evaristo is an individual who has engaged in profound dialog with various members of the government. Relations, then, are perfect.

[Question] Are the base communities dissatisfied?

[Answer] No.

[Question] Let us change the subject once again. In your talks with former Presidents Medici and Geisel, did you discuss the danger which the more open approach might involve for the country politically?

[Answer] These were mere courtesy visits.

## **The Lutfalla Case**

**[Question]** You cannot be unaware that studies made by impartial institutes such as Gallup show that your public image is bad. Would this be due to the publicising of the Lutfalla case?

**[Answer]** First of all, I do not accept the Gallup study, I do not accept it. It may be an institute with a very fine reputation, but I disagree. Because in a state with 24 million inhabitants, a selection of 842 individuals is not representative. I do not accept it. Secondly, with all the credibility the institute may have, it is necessary to understand how the questions are asked, because there are questions which suggest a given answer. Thirdly, the interested party pays. They have their monthly pay sheet, they sell advertising, they have subscribers. It is necessary to know who the interested party is. And, fourth, I believe in only one real public opinion study--the results at the polls. Therefore to say that so-and-so is popular, and thus-and-such is not, has no relevance at all. The PSD is the largest political force in the state of Sao Paulo and I can guarantee that it will be in the 1982 elections.

**[Question]** But let us return to the Lutfalla case . . .

**[Answer]** I want to tell you that if any doubt remains about the Lutfalla case or any attitude of mine in a preceding public post, I would be cleared in the end, but it would not happen. My life has been scrutinised in detail as that of no one in this country has been.

**[Question]** How scrutinised, Governor?

**[Answer]** It has been. You must know that if there were the slightest doubt, it would be used to justify a challenge. And how would it be used? To light a fire in the Assembly? I do not know who lit the fire, but it was not I. In the balloting, I won at the polls. What reason would I have to distort it?

**[Question]** There were investigations in depth, Governor? May we not know?

**[Answer]** If there were a fault, the case would have been won and the courts would have declared the other side right, for they would have made use of it. They did not because there was nothing to use.

**[Question]** Have you asked for any legal opinion on the possibility of leaving the state government a year early, on the basis of the fact that you were not directly elected, in order to be able to run in the direct elections in 1982?

**[Answer]** It seems to me that the problem of conflict is not dependent on the type of election. I will be governor of the state of Sao Paulo until March of 1983.

[Question] Is it true that you are looking for a more closed approach?

[Answer] This is the 18th time I have been asked this question and I will continue to deny it, for there is no truth in this. In all of my attitudes I have shown that I favor the open approach.

[Question] Why then are you not planning on a candidate to succeed you?

[Answer] If I prepared for a successor, my term would end today, would it not?

[Question] Do you believe that the elections will continue to be indirect?

[Answer] No, the fact is that with my indication of Antonio da Silva as a candidate today, Paulo Maluf is finished.

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## BRAZIL

### BAHIA DOCUMENT CRITICIZES COMMUNIST PARTY MOVE

Rio de Janeiro JORNAL DO BRASIL in Portuguese 17 Jul 80 p 6

[Text] Salvador--A document by the Committee for the Defense of the PCB [Brazilian Communist Party] criticizing the removal of Luiz Carlos Prestes as secretary general of the party and accusing the Central Committee of having adopted a "line of disparagement and discredit of Comrade Prestes" is circulating in Salvador.

The internal crisis which has been plaguing the PCB since the arrival of the leaders who were in exile, and which culminated in the removal of Luiz Carlos Prestes from the post of secretary general, according to the document, led "true communists" to found the committee in Bahia. The document said that "a putative majority, coopted and not elected, has seized the leadership" of the party, "depriving the secretary general of the conditions necessary for acting without constraint."

The document says further that the present leaders of the PCB "are keeping silent or taking the other side" in an effort to "change the course of the communist movement in our country, leading our party toward class conciliation and abandoning the class struggle as the motive force of development in social changes." They accuse the leadership policy of "breaking the back" of the PCB.

The document goes on to charge that the leaders are compromising on principle "to achieve legality for a party without moral fiber, one which abhors the dictatorship of the proletariat and the class struggle and compromises with the Brazilian dictatorship which remains a draconian security law."

The document also stresses that the removal of the former secretary general was a blow "crowned with the career-oriented concerns of the pseudo-secretary elected, who was not even honorable enough to reject legal acceptance of the post, which does not belong to him, and which only the Seventh Congress can change." The removal of Luiz Carlos Prestes, according to the document, was "the greatest folly committed by this group."

The document, entitled "In Defense of the PCB," asserts that the removal of Luiz Carlos Prestes occurred at a "false meeting, where those who were to participate were hand picked. The man being removed himself did not have the right to defend himself, because he was not there. The bylaws were violated by pseudo-leaders who learned to deal blows from the military dictatorship, even using its phrases, such as 'vacant post,'" the document adds.

"There was usurpation of the post which Comrade Prestes won by struggling all his life on the people's side, in the service of the workers' class. It was a post he alone was qualified to abandon, for if Prestes was entrusted with the leadership of the people, he fulfilled his duty with heroism and faithfulness," the document comments.

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## BRAZIL

### DIRIGIBLE PROJECT AS TRANSPORTATION ALTERNATIVE SHELVED

Sao Paulo O ESTADO DE SAO PAULO in Portuguese 13 Jul 60 p 23

[Article by Flavio Nery: "Dirigible, Other Projects Shelved"]

[Text] Sao Jose dos Campos--Although agriculture has government priority, the country will not succeed in eliminating the "suicidal" policy of importing foodstuffs in the next 20 years, and the "undesirable" record of harvest losses, in a proportion reaching 50 percent, will continue. And Brazil will continue to lose some billions of cruzeiros every year as a result of the long-standing lack of adequate transportation means for shipping out its main asset--farm products.

This somber prediction was made by scientists at the Aerospace Technology Center (CTA), who after 3 years of work recently completed the viability studies on Project Dirigible--a type of aircraft regarded as suitable for the transportation of farm products in a country of such continental dimensions as Brazil. However, the skepticism of the military, the engineers and technicians at the CTA took their toll. Last week, the air ministry informed that body that the federal government, consistent with its present policy of limiting expenditures, has not allocated funds for the building of the first two dirigible prototypes, and the project was shelved.

The aircraft as designed can take off and land vertically and has engines of low power fueled by diesel oil for horizontal movement, and it can carry huge indivisible loads. The domestic dirigible would be 73 meters long and would be equipped with turbojet engines with horizontal and vertical sweep articulation, and it could carry cargoes of up to 50 tons.

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## BRIEFS

**LIBERAL PRESIDENTIAL NOMINATION CAMPAIGN--Bogota--**The liberal leadership appeared to gain strength over the weekend with the decision of Alberto Santofimio Botero to take the initiative as he opened his campaign for the presidential nomination. The liberal legislators who support Santofimio have expressed their determination to bolster the choosing of the candidate through popular consultations. In a statement yesterday, Santofimio Botero claimed to have the support of at least 60 legislators who will back him at the 22 August parliamentary meeting. The liberal leader was accompanied on this weekend tour of the departments of Tolima and Huila by one of his supporters, Ernesto Lucena Quevedo. (Text) (PA041527 Bogota Radio Sutatenza Network in Spanish 1200 GMT 4 Aug 80)

**NEW AMBASSADOR--**Alberto Vasquez Restrepo, now ambassador to Belgium and former mines and energy minister, today took over his post. He replaces Ramiro Andrade. (PA11832 Bogota Cadena Radial Super in Spanish 2330 GMT 4 Aug 80 PA)

**COFFEE FIGURES--Bogota--**Colombia's exports of green coffee amounted to 10.5 million bags during the international coffee year, Arturo Gomez Jaramillo, manager of the National Federation of Coffee Growers, has announced. Exports this (calendar) year, which is different from the coffee year, amounted to 7,346,826 bags. (PA11832 Bogota Radio Sutatenza Network in Spanish 1200 GMT 11 Aug 80 PA)

**RADIO LICENSING DECREE ANNULLED--**The government has unexpectedly annulled the decree which had prohibited private individuals from transferring to each other the licenses to operate radio stations in the country. Decree No 2003 of the Communications Ministry also annulled the regulation issued by former Minister Jose Manuel Arias Carrisosa which had prohibited the transfer of licenses to inheritors. On announcing this radical change, Minister Gabriel Melo Guevara explained that the transfers can take place if 10 years have passed since the licenses were granted. The minister said that permission from the Communications Ministry is required for all types of transfers. Its authorization is also needed for all actions which mean a change in the administrative control of the concession of radio frequencies. (Text) (PA070328 Bogota Cadena Radial Super in Spanish 2330 GMT 6 Aug 80)

ARMED FORCES COMMANDER TO RETIRE--Bogota, 9 Aug (EFE)--Local press circles today reported that Gen Jaime Sarmiento Sarmiento, commander of the Colombian Armed Forces, has requested retirement after he refused to attend a military parade in Bogota Thursday. Sarmiento Sarmiento will retire from active service in September, the sources said. The three-star general was among the officers most likely to reach the Defense Ministry. According to a spokesman of the Armed Forces General Command, Sarmiento Sarmiento's absence from the parade Thursday to mark Army Day and the 150th anniversary of the battle of Boyaca caused concern in the high ranks. The officer occupies the second most important place in the military structure and it is said that Gen Jose Gonzalo Forero Delgadillo, current army commander, will replace him as armed forces commander. [Text] [PA092228 Madrid EFE in Spanish 1414 GMT 9 Aug 80]

GUERRILLA LEADERS ARRESTED--Bogota, 9 Aug (EFE)--A military source has reported here that leaders of Colombian guerrilla organizations were arrested today with explosives. Four activists were arrested with 12 cases of dynamite in Cali, western Colombia. The source added that the explosives were destined for guerrilla groups operating in western Colombia. In Borbur, in the east, the security brigades arrested Gustavo and Luis Hernandez Gonzalez Poveda, leaders of the guerrilla National Liberation Army (ELN). Police said they discovered automatic weapons, explosives and subversive propaganda in their possession. [Text] [PA092224 Madrid EFE in Spanish 1257 GMT 9 Aug 80]

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COST OF MAINTAINING SALVADORAN REFUGEES DECLARED MINOR

San Jose LA REPUBLICA in Spanish 29 Jul 80 p 3

[Text] The distribution of food and the intensification of sanitation measures with the rendering of basic medical services, are measures adopted by the Government of the Republic to attend to the 212 Salvadoran refugees, at Murcielago estate.

According to Dr Rodrigo Altmann, Acting President, the arrival of a new group of refugees is not known, but it should be very clear, that it is not costing the Government of Costa Rica anything to maintain the present group.

Altmann Ortiz added that in accordance with ICEN (Intergovernmental Committee for European Migration) estimates, the refugee groups in the country, counting the Salvadorans and those from other places, signify weekly expenditures of around 25 thousand dollars (which is) taken care of by the United Nations.

Regarding the steps taken for medical care among the population at Murcielago estate, officials of the Health Ministry indicated that they are working on the vaccination and treatment of those cases requiring control, but that in general there have not been any problems.

There is a possibility that many of the Salvadoran refugees who are in the country could undertake agricultural work with a permit from the Department of Migration.

The director of that department, Rodolfo Quiros, said that there are at present close to 200 Salvadoran refugees, in addition to 231 peasants who arrived in Liberia last Saturday, installed in various specially prepared lodgings.

Quiros stated that the Salvadorans located in different lodgings would be assembled and the possibility that they could devote themselves to agricultural work would be considered.

In addition he said that the peasants who entered the country on Saturday are classified as refugees, not political exiles.

**TECHNICAL COOPERATION AGREEMENT SIGNED WITH SPAIN**

San Jose LA REPUBLICA in Spanish 4 Jul 80 p 3

[Text] Spain and Costa Rica signed a technical cooperation agreement aimed at the establishment of irrigation-based agriculture in an area of land in excess of 100,000 hectares, in the Basin of Tempisque.

The negotiations were conducted by the ministers of agriculture and of foreign relations and stressed the need for utilizing water coming from the Arenal Basin; this is why there will be technical cooperation between the Agricultural Development Institute of Spain and the National Electricity Service.

The main objective of the agreement is to help the irrigation department of the SNE [National Electricity Service] in its various fields of activity, and to assist the institute in its specific irrigation programs.

Within this concept, preference will be given to projects for peasant settlements under the control of the Land and Settlement Institute.

Through its Agricultural Reform and Development Institute, the government of Spain will be able to supply services involving design, supervision, and construction of these projects within the irrigation programs for which financing by Spain may be considered possible.

Other features of the agreement provide for an exchange of information among technicians on pertinent subjects and the organization of visits, missions, and study and advanced training seminars.

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## **COSTA RICA**

### **CONTINUING CRITICISM OF ILLEGAL ARMS TRAFFIC**

#### **Illegal Traffic Questioned**

**San Jose LA NACION in Spanish 11 Jul 80 p 14A**

**[Editorial]**

**[Text]** Costa Rica is a little country with a great democratic tradition. We all know and understand this, and for that very reason, we don't want to lose our good record. Unfortunately, this solid, respectable, and recognized democratic record could be shattered if the government and the authorities do not react efficiently and energetically when confronted with almost irrefutable evidence that the country has become a center for arms traffic in Central America.

The strange circumstances that we are now discussing are serious, threatening, and dangerous. We will leave a full analysis of the problem for later. Right now we want to give the reader a summary of the most striking events.

On 15 June 1980, a plane with Panamanian registration crashed in Salvadoran territory while trying to deliver arms to the guerrillas. This was the start of a story that still has not been made as clear as it should have been, right from the beginning, and without holding anything back.

The seriously wounded pilot, Cesar Rodriguez, was removed from El Salvador and taken to a clinic in David. A few days later he gave, in Panama, a full confession, about which we have been able to learn only the following facts. He belonged to a group which he said was headed by a Costa Rican, which handled arms shipments within the territory of Central America. These arms were picked up in our national territory,

in particular at the airport of Tamarindo, and then were taken by another plane and two other pilots. The Panamanian president, Aristides Royo, has offered to send the report of the complete investigation to the Costa Rican chief of state, Rodrigo Carazo Odio.

A few hours after this accident, agents of the DIC (Criminal Investigation Department) confiscated a private vehicle on Calle Blancos which contained a load of munition. It was then proved that this munition had been removed from the air section of the Ministry of Security, from which it had been removed upon "top level orders."

A strange pattern of confusion has developed from the Costa Rican investigation: Involved in the investigation are the office of the attorney general, the DIC, the OIJ (Judicial Investigation Office), the National Security Agency, the Legislative Assembly, and now the Judicial Branch where, because of technical problems of a procedural nature, the case is being delayed until it is determined which court will handle the affair.

While these confused events have been going on, one of the persons who is allegedly implicated--a pilot employed by the Ministry of Public Security--left for Miami and said he would not return to Costa Rica until the judicial authorities determine the problem of the appropriate court. That ministry gave the pilot leave and allowed him to leave Costa Rica.

The fog enshrouding these serious events is every day becoming thicker and more impenetrable.

The vital Panamanian report which contains the full confession of Cesar Rodriguez has not reached Costa Rica. When President Carazo was asked about this, he replied that he had not been sent the report, even though this investigation is essential for the proper proceeding of the Costa Rican inquiry.

Thus, with the facts simply stated, we now find the greatest discrepancy in the delay in sending the report of the Panamanian investigation, or perhaps, in the inertia of the Costa Rican Government in requesting it with energy and speed, given the close cooperation that has always existed between the two governments.

Along with this government apathy, the General Directorate of Civil Aviation, despite the fact that Costa Rican aircraft

and airports are involved in this affair, says that it will not investigate the matter.

Instead, further confusing these impenetrable events, it has been stated that no weapons have been lost from our national arsenals, and then, a truly disconcerting explanation, it was stated that now there are more weapons there than before.

The questions we are asking today, impelled by an undeniable public interest, are alarming. When will the Panamanian report of the investigation be requested? Is there any plausible reason for this delay? Where were the arms shipped from Costa Rica coming from?

The government has displayed--and we do not doubt this--its interest in clearing up the facts. It is time for it to act more quickly to do so.

#### Official Investigation Hailed

San Jose LA REPUBLICA in Spanish 12 Jul 80 p 8

[Editorial]

[Text] Members of the Judicial Investigation Office yesterday took possession of another arsenal, this one in Alajuela, which was located in the home of the former commander of the Civil Guard, Victor Rojas. Using the same argument as Juan Jose Echeverria Brealey, the former military official said that this was a private collection belonging to him, and that he can show that he purchased all the items that were confiscated.

Opposing the attitude of the authorities of the Criminal Investigation Department and of the OIJ, who are trying to locate and confiscate the weapons arsenals that are held by private individuals under the label of "collections," is the ferocity that top level officials of the executive have begun to employ in harassing the officials who are carrying out their duty of restoring tranquility to the people. The president of the republic, acting through the minister of public security who endorsed the opinion of his superior, and the minister of justice, have issued memoranda and statements clearly designed to limit the actions of the authorities who are having good success in their search for arsenals and in their crackdown against the arms traffic, which have both endangered the tranquility and security of the nation. This should be soundly denounced because the nation is determined not to become involved in international adventures and to



prevent some people from getting rich through the sale of weapons whose purpose is to kill other human beings.

It is our duty to state that the OIJ and DIC officials deserve congratulations instead of reprimands and that they are earning the gratitude of the Costa Rican people.

We know that the laws on arms are old, with some of them dating back to before 1881, and consequently they were designed for another type of society and people. For that reason, there are no explicit regulations covering arms registration, since the legislators believed that a ban on their possession was sufficient, since it wouldn't occur to anyone to register weapons whose possession was absolutely illegal, nor did they think that anyone would work to collect these instruments of death. But still, from the very first moment, the law made a distinction between ordinary firearms and war weapons, stating that the latter could only be held by the executive authority, which is a logical, fair, and appropriate distinction.

Given the times, the Legislative Assembly should now legislate on the possession of arms, imposing severe penalties on those who have in their possession war weapons of any type. Otherwise, under the pretext of collections, this country will become an armed focus for revolutionaries and gangsters of all sorts, who will claim to be only purchasing collections in our country.

If the DIC and OIJ officials are not hindered in their work, collections will continue to be found everywhere, and in that way, if they are persistent, we may discover just which people have been getting rich on the blood of the Salvadorean people.

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**COSTA RICA**

**LEGISLATOR CARMONA BENAVIDES ON UNITY PARTY POLITICS**

**San Jose LA REPUBLICA in Spanish 2 Jul 80 p 9**

[Interview with Deputy Arnulfo Carmona Benavides, by Wilmer Murillo in the column "Political Wednesdays in the Republic"; date and place not given]

[Text] Since June there can be no doubt that the political machinery of the Unity Coalition party, although not yet working intensively, is still conducting a fairly active campaign for the presidential primaries.

The Unity Coalition is gradually readying its election machinery, without rushing to launch primary candidates. But the various trends are pulling their own strings in order to incline the scales in their favor. That is inevitable.

One of the presidential hopefuls, Foreign Relations Minister Calderon Fournier, although without any apparent support within the government, does have definite influence on some 16 legislators in the Congress.

The minister of public works and transportation, Rodolfo Mendez, another of the presidential hopefuls, is trying to project his image by means of infrastructure projects throughout the country. His working trips have inevitably taken on the character of political campaign trips.

The movement supporting Rodrigo Madrigal Nieto has so far been limited to a propaganda campaign which, in the opinion of some, is rather timid, but they are waiting for certain key events that could bring him some advantages.

In the middle of this political schema, the deputy Arnulfo Carmona Benavides has just been named head of the Unity group in the Legislative Assembly. He will certainly be called on

to deal with rumblings of internal dissension in his party bench, caused by both personal and election reasons. Our interview follows.

[Question] Are you afraid that this Unity Coalition may cause more than one "split" capable of producing greater dissension within the organization? What will you do to avoid this?

[Answer] That is a risk in any democratic election. If the organization is not adequate and allows fierce battles to rage within the party factions, it could result in such a situation. Nonetheless, I feel that that will not be the case in Unity. I expect that it will set up an organization that will prevent such occurrences from taking place. My reason for saying that is the form in which the committee that will establish the convention standards is being set up. In any event, throughout the country, the supporters of Unity are aware that no matter what happens, they must remain united.

[Question] Taking into account the trends that make up the coalition, each of which is backing a different presidential primary candidate, don't you think that at such a time it will be hard to guide such an organization?

[Answer] No. This is something that is quite satisfactory, and it is something real. The Unity group is remaining united. There is nothing, either in the past or at this time that would suggest any type of division. There may be some trends with different viewpoints; that is both natural and logical, but the Assembly group is remaining united.

[Question] As you have to be defined in terms of supporting one of the trends of Unity, don't you think that your position would place you in a difficult dilemma if for some reason you had to oppose your own comrades?

[Answer] The affairs of the Legislative Assembly, the issues that concern solely the Legislative Assembly Unity group, have nothing at all to do with clashes between different factions. In any case, I could say that my election was unanimous. While there are different viewpoints within the Unity group, that was not an obstacle keeping my comrades from voting for me. They had confidence that I could lead the group, and they were sure that my work would be as objective as possible and completely neutral as far as the different factions are concerned.

[Question] Do you consider yourself the best man at this time to lead the Unity Assembly group?

[Answer] Oh, no. In the first place, because I would be immodest in making such a claim, and in the second place, because that would not be true. There are many comrades with greater merits for heading the party group.

[Question] Among the possible presidential hopefuls are Rodrigo Madrigal Nieto, Rodolfo Mendez, and the minister Calderon Fournier. Which one will you support?

[Answer] I am backing Madrigal Nieto. That is no secret to anyone. I think he is a man of great ability, an intellectual, a politician, a statesman, and a brilliant executive. These qualities, plus being a journalist, an attorney, and a parliamentarian, make him an excellent candidate.

[Question] As you are a Madrigal supporter in a group that has about 16 Calderon supporters, doesn't that create problems?

[Answer] All my comrades know where I stand in politics, and that doesn't cause any friction. I respect their positions, and they respect mine.

[Question] Would you say that your election as party leader was a victory for Mr Madrigal Nieto?

[Answer] No, I don't agree with that view. My election was supported by all my comrades, from all the factions. It wasn't a real partisan matter, but just that my comrades felt that Deputy Carmona could serve well, aside from any political positions.

[Question] Don't you believe that, no matter how discreet the ministers Mendez and Calderon are being in political matters, they are violating constitutional and legal provisions, which you, as deputies, have the duty to report to the nation?

[Answer] Both Mr Mendez and Mr Calderon are presumed presidential primary candidates within Unity. They have not yet announced this, but there are obviously political trends which are supporting them. I think that once they take on an open and organized campaign, they will resign from their positions.

[Question] It has been asked why, as ministers who are considered possible primary candidates from Unity, they are making working trips, which inevitably take on the nature of political trips? Don't you agree?



[Answer] I can't judge that at all. It doesn't seem to me that they are using their positions as ministers for campaign purposes. I feel they are honorable and honest, and that they will in no way allow their subordinates or their staffs to make use of their official duties to boost their candidacies.

[Question] There has recently been some talk of a political dialogue. How do you view this?

[Answer] Dialogue, in a system like ours, is both natural and necessary. There are certain times in the life of peoples in which difficult, disturbing situations arise. It is both natural and necessary for everyone to try to work together to find solutions. That has happened in Costa Rica in the past, and I hope that it will happen now, and in the future. At difficult times for the nation partisan rivalries are put aside in order to seek ways of salvaging the situation.

[Question] Some people think that President Carazo has misunderstood this, and that he feels a dialogue means sending the Congress 40 bills to vote on. Do you think that is correct, or will that destroy any hope of institutionalizing such a dialogue?

[Answer] What is happening is that some people make these things campaign issues and try to distort both words and intentions. The president has said repeatedly that he is ready to talk, if necessary, with Monge, almost the only leader of National Liberation, and the only person respected by all the deputies in the Assembly. President Carazo has already opened the door for a dialogue, and it is now up to Liberation to say how, when, where, what, and with whom this dialogue should be conducted.

[Question] Some people feel that the arms issue has clouded the image of the former minister, Juan Jose Echeverria. As a member of his party, do you think that is true? Will you support him enthusiastically in his efforts to get out of this mess, or will you investigate and punish him if he is found to be responsible for an alleged arms shipment?

[Answer] These charges of arms deals and some other things are at times based only on rumors. What people say, and what they have already said. Sometimes there may be palpable proof, as in the case of the howitzers confiscated in Moravia. But so far no one has been able to show that former minister Echeverria is involved. Now, if the full investigation that will have to be done and that has been ordered by the Legislative Assembly



with the support of Unity reveals that some official or employee at either a high or low level is implicated, we will be the first to ask that severe penalties be applied to such a person.

[Question] If you could characterize President Carazo's administration, between development and prosperity on one side, and inefficiency and disaster on the other, where would you place it?

[Answer] In Costa Rica, a highly politicized country, the opposition parties always try to minimize the government's action. There are some people who have a possibility of returning to power. Then, as soon as this administration assumed office, from that first moment these people began to draw a distorted image of the president and his administration. Other minority parties who have no possibility of getting into power by means of elections are using other tactics, by trying to create chaos and problems in the unions, in the banana fields and in industry, but primarily in the government. It is no secret to anyone that the ANEP [National Association of Public Employees], the top union organization that covers 30,000 public employees, while not communist itself, is headed by three or four communists. That is a fact. This little minority group encourages violence and chaos. Their aim is to undermine and belittle the actions of the government. Now there have been mistakes made. That is human. But the fact is that the government has done some extraordinary work in the material field and in foreign relations, as well as in human rights.

It has brought the country to a position never before dreamed of in international prestige. I can tell you that in the difficult conditions that we are living in, another government would have worsened the situation. What is happening is that Carazo is a man who makes decisions. He isn't afraid of making them, no matter how daring they may be. There have been other presidents as good as he is, but also many weak presidents.

[Question] Do you think, then, that in the next Unity campaign, you will defend the government's work?

[Answer] The strategy to be used in a campaign can't be predicted 2 years in advance. So I can't say if the leaders or the leader chosen by the convention will defend the government.

[Question] Don't you think that such an extraordinary government program, which you have just been discussing, should be defended?

[Answer] Some of us in my situation do think so. But here we aren't talking about people in my situation.

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**MONGE CAMPAIGN MANAGER DISCUSSES PLAN, ECONOMIC SITUATION**

San Jose LA REPUBLICA in Spanish 9 Jul 80 p 9

[Interview with Alberto Vait Lizano, by Wilmer Murillo in the column "Political Wednesdays in the Republic": "I Am Not in Politics To Benefit My Companies"; date and place not given]

[Text] Alberto Vait Lizano, 52, holds a degree in civil engineering from Louisiana State University and is one of the key men on the team which for the past several months has been running the presidential campaign of Luis Alberto Monge Alvarez. Vait holds a key job as campaign manager. He is a businessman with great prestige and has been a politician for the past 4 years. Vait gave LA REPUBLICA an exclusive interview whose essential parts are as follows,

[Question] Could you tell me, Alberto Vait, who Alberto Vait is?

[Answer] I devoted my everyday life--after studying at the Buenaventura Corrales School, the Academy of Costa Rica, and Louisiana State University--to the problem of housing as far as the professional part was concerned. I have certain companies which built around 1,000 housing units last year. I developed my activities in the field of engineering and construction. With my partner Fernando Bechae, I built 70 percent of the housing units of the INVU [National Institute of Housing and City Planning]. For the past 4 years, I have been participating in the bidding competitions of that agency. In Germany, Italy, and Romania I studied various prefabricated housing systems. My personal life, my family, and my children (he has 5 children, 4 of whom are girls) occupy a large part of my life. The third phase of my life, starting about 4 years ago, involves Liberation--the party to which I belonged even before it was founded. I have been close to the party during various campaigns but never more intensely as when Monge went into his first convention fight against Hernan Carron. I was the treasurer on that occasion and later on I helped Eugenio Rodriguez during the convention with Carlos Castille. I organized Monge's convention and right now I am responsible for coordinating the presidential campaign.

[Question] Your appointment as campaign manager was interpreted by some people, especially in the Legislative Assembly, as a low blow against Armando Arauz who was the campaign manager during the last convention. Do you believe that this charge is correct?

[Answer] I do not believe that it is correct. Mr Arauz has been one of the most intelligent and honest men in the PLN [National Liberation Party] throughout its entire existence. We are great friends and I am the first to recognize his merits. I only believe that special circumstances--involving a balance with the business sector--caused the appointment to go to me. I sincerely believe that Mr Arauz would have done a better job than I.

[Question] Do you think that you are a businessman or a politician?

[Answer] Considering the situation in Costa Rica now, one cannot separate those two things. The PLN accomplished a first phase during which it laid the foundations for a more just society. It enabled large population segments to rise. The gross income is now better distributed than it was 20 or 40 years ago. In my opinion, the next phase must bring a jump in production. It is necessary to support the business and industry sector as a whole so that Costa Rica may be present on all markets. The conflict between the petroleum-producing countries and the industrialized countries, which we countries of the Third World are also suffering from, can be resolved by having Costa Rica produce more. The channels for the distribution of wealth must be adjusted. I would say that I am more of a businessman rather than a politician. But right now I believe in a policy of supporting business and industry so that, through production, we can end our fiscal deficit and restore our balance of payments.

[Question] We often heard Luis Albert Monge say that he does not want any businessmen mixing in politics and viceversa. Are you the exception to the rule?

[Answer] No. What Luis Albert is saying is that he does not agree with businessmen who meddle in politics and in government in order to support their own private deals. Ever since I started helping Monge, I stopped participating in government bidding invitations in spite of the fact that there are no laws to prohibit that. My companies have no connections with government agencies and we are not resorting to bank loans.

[Question] What will you do to prevent Monge's prolonged exposure as a candidate from reducing his popularity?

[Answer] Monge, one of the most skillful politicians I ever knew, has been exposed to public life for 30 years and his popularity keeps going up. He has a thorough knowledge of the soul of Costa Rica, of what the country needs. That will prevent his image from deteriorating. We can see that already in the dialogue with the government, from which I believe he will emerge stronger. On the other hand, the Political Directorate and the parliamentary fraction together will assume a preponderant posture in order

to protect him against any ill-intentioned person who may go after his candidacy.

[Question] You talked about a dialogue. What do you mean by having a dialogue with the government?

[Answer] Making it see the mistakes it has made and continues to make for the purpose of finding out whether it is possible to correct them in order to extricate the country from the situation in which it has been put as a result. This is done not only to come to an agreement on four or six bills, something which can be easily achieved in the assembly. If passing 40 bills will enable Costa Rica to solve its problems, then we will vote for them. But the dialogue is more profound. It is simply suicidal to discourage production through a neo-free-trade policy by raising interest rates for the producer to 18 percent. These are the elements of the dialogue. Is the administration prepared to change its policies? Will it return to a policy of production incentives or will it continue to develop ideas which do not apply to a developing economy? And then we have to talk about arms. Is this simply a case of arms traffic encouraged by a few smugglers who want to make money or is Costa Rica intervening in the politics of other countries? Is the administration ready to keep Costa Rica neutral or does it want to turn it into a bridgehead for the revolution in Central America? Another question is this: Why does it threaten the industrial sector with taking customs protection away from it? That would leave the country's industries at the mercy of the foreign industries and the more powerful countries. Besides, this discourages investment and creates more unemployment and recession. Is the president ready to abandon a campaign attitude and act as the president of all the people of Costa Rica? These are things that are more profound than just passing bills in the Legislative Assembly.

[Question] Who, in your judgment, is the dominant "brains" of the PLN?

[Answer] Right now, that would be Luis Alberto Monge.

[Question] Some people believe that there is no absolute control within the PLN but rather division and a bitter fight for shares of power. How would you describe that situation?

[Answer] I would not say that. The PLN has always been a multiclass, pluralist party and therefore there have always been different currents and patterns. Each of them wants to advance its own interests. But there is no such fratricidal struggle; instead, it is a fraternal struggle which is quite forceful as we saw at the convention. There is sufficient tradition to endure those internal debates and come out looking good. Castillo and Elias Soley have already returned to the political directorate and their opinions carry weight at the moment when decisions must be made. I do not believe that there is a fight for shares of the power pie. Castillo said and indicated that he does not want anything and that shows that every comrade carries his specific weight not because he participated in a



struggle involving tendencies but rather on his own merits. The PLN is not accustomed to absolute bossism but rather to combine the opinions of the various sectors.

[Question] Some people thought that they could detect interest on the part of former presidents Oduber and Figueres in adopting positions that would place the candidate in a subordinate status. Do you believe that they have any intention of putting him in a subordinate position?

[Answer] The two former presidents quite logically carry considerable weight among public opinion and their ideas have to be taken into account. But the candidate has been absolutely at liberty to decide in accordance with his own opinion. They are only consultants but they will not have--nor do they seek--the power to force decisions upon the candidate.

[Question] Do you believe that the country is being affected by the total absence of leaders and that it is fluctuating between complete optimism and pessimism for that reason?

[Answer] This is not a case where the leadership is absent--we are now renewing our leaders. In some way, the ban on presidential reelection has turned former presidents into important leadership elements. I believe that Monge will be a leader for many years. Others will emerge from the Unity [Coalition]. What we need is political maturity to realize that Costa Rica is a whole and that it is not a country that is born and then comes to an end every 4 years.

[Question] Several presidential hopefuls were mentioned in connection with the Unity Coalition. Who do you believe would be the most dangerous rival to Luis Alberto Monge?

[Answer] The coming elections will be decided through a vote for a group of persons headed by Monge. I would not say that any of them alone would have any chance because of what I would call the public opinion movement which is above the virtues that any of them might have.

[Question] The convention campaign of the Unity Coalition introduced hopefuls into the race for the nomination who are not officially candidates. They included two ministers. Do you believe, as some people say, that this is illegal and that it permits a certain exploitation of powers which somebody might have by virtue of the fact that he is in the government?

[Answer] When a minister decides to go into politics, he must simply resign because that is what the law says. Not because he would be gaining an advantage for himself. The sooner the ministers who are hopefuls resign, the better it will be for the country's health.

[Question] As a businessman, how would you describe the country's current economic and social situation?

[Answer] I would say that it is rather difficult. I do not see any plans to increase the output. Important projects, such as fuel alcohol production, have been paralyzed. The social situation is a consequence of the deteriorating economic situation. If the country does not step up its output, it will not be able to support necessary things, such as the universities. They are divorced from the production process. The bureaucratic strata have a status to maintain--something which I believe is plausible--but they are also connected with production. To elevate 25 percent of the population who live in subhuman conditions, you have to work and produce more. There is no other alternative. Instability is due to dangerous maladjustments deriving from the absence of an adequate distribution of wealth and, right now, of the output.

[Question] Finally, what position do you hope to hold in the possible future administration of Luis Alberto Monge?

[Answer] I will hold the position which Luis Alberto assigns to me. I am ready to work in the administration for 4 years. Now I devote all my time to organizing the coming campaign. I will do any future job with enthusiasm and I will fight for the good of Costa Rica. The next administration will have to be a government of national reconciliation. The country's interests will have to be put above party interests. That is how I see politics.

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EDUCATIONAL REGIONALIZATION PRAISED

San Jose LA NACION in Spanish 6 Aug 80 p 6

[Text] At the eleventh meeting of the Inter-American Council for Education, Science and Culture (CEICC) held in Bogota from 27 June to 2 August this year, the Costa Rican system of regionalizing education was considered one of the best that is being used in Latin America.

This was reported by Dr Maria Eugenia Dengo who was elected first vice president of that meeting. She headed the Government delegation which also included: Mr Marvin Herrera, Viceminister; Mr Alexis Molina, of the MEP [Expansion not given], and Mr Luis Guardia from the Costa Rican Embassy in Colombia.

According to the Minister [Dengo] during the meeting there was a tendency to favor regionalization in the sphere of education and added: "in this field Costa Rica occupies an advanced position because we view regionalization from an integrated point of view which includes quantity, quality, intersectoral relations as well as the administrative aspect."

According to the Minister of Education the effort of many countries to convert the Latin American continent "into the torch of civilization now that Europe is undergoing a period of decadence" was also well-known.

On the other hand Dr Dengo submitted some proposals so that among the program orientations for the next biannual CEICC meeting statements be included which emphasize the importance of women and at the same time studies be coordinated with the Inter-American Women's Commission (CIM) for the creation of an office that would systematically promote the intellectual development and the participation of women.

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## **COSTA RICA**

### **LOCAL INDIANS ISSUE WARNING ON NEW MINING CODE**

**San Jose LA NACION in Spanish 2 Jul 80 p 4A**

[Text] Representatives of the native communities of Talamanca, Guaimi, Boruca, Terraba, Guatuso, and Cabecar yesterday morning, meeting at the Ministry of Culture, Youth, and Sports, warned that there is a danger that the native cultures may be destroyed if the mining code bill is passed without the necessary modifications.

The meeting was called by the Native Association of Costa Rica and by the General Directorate of Youth, headed by Jose Roberto Rodriguez Quesada.

The concern of those attending is focussed on the fact that, if the bill is passed, there will be no measures designed to help the native peoples in the area of land holdings, as the bill provides that mineral resources are the property of the state absolutely.

But the factor of greatest concern in the Mining Code draft is that it destroys the Native Law, considered by those affected to be their "principal war horse" for defending their rights.

On this issue Jose Carlos Morales, a member of the Association, pointed out that one of the articles of the bill calls for the annulment of any legal means available.

"If approved without the necessary modifications," added the native spokesman, "it would mean the annihilation of a social group, since it provides no beneficial measures in cases of expropriation in order to extract mineral resources."

That is why the Indians visited the Legislative Assembly in order to ask its members to return the bill to committee.

The response of the deputies was apparently positive. That was reported by Dr Rafael Alberto Grillo, president of the congress, who told them that once it comes up for debate this coming week, it will be sent back to committee, since there are many reforms pending.

For that reason, Jose Carlos Morales and Adenil Zamora, as well as other members of the association will be telling the legislators of the dangers inherent in the bill, if protective measures are not provided.

"We do not disagree with legislation on this matter," stated Adenil Zamora, "nor are we motivated by extremist political positions. Quite on the contrary, we are fighting for the right to live, since the right to property, the future of a culture, and even the protection of the nation's ecological resources are at stake, since protective measures are not included in this bill."

#### A Single Voice

In order to alert people and explain in detail how the Native Law is being violated, the various native communities elected representatives so that, once united in a single voice, they could carry out their duty.

The active participants had their first show of force yesterday, in the press conference at which the following persons spoke, explaining their objections: Rito Stewart Morales of Talamanca; Jose Isabel Roja of Salitre de Buenos Aires; Rafael Bejarano of Guaimi; Fermin Rojas of Boruca; and Manuel Villanueva of Terraba.

The main concern of these speakers was centered on the fact that 50 percent of the native population lacks identity papers.

Having no identification documents makes any transaction, employment, or legal proceeding difficult. In case of any removal, expropriation, or abuse, they are limited in their access to legal resources, since they are not listed as Costa Rican citizens.

That is one of the points which, in theory, the Native Law covers. Nonetheless, all agreed that the legislation is "defective," at least in practice. And as an example they



cited the problems they have in selling their products, the lack of land and suitable housing, the lack of decent medical care and communications.

#### Education

On the subject of education, they pointed out the importance of encouraging an educational system that promotes the conservation of cultural identity. For that purpose they asked that teachers from their own communities be trained so that education will be beneficial to the students, as to date the models developed have only made children ashamed of their own culture.

"The native is the great unknown element in Costa Rica; foreign cultures are studied, but an appreciation of our own races is not inculcated." That was one of the statements frequently repeated yesterday, along with: "They treat us like relics but do not recognize our rights," or: "The promises repeated over and over just stay on paper."

All these problems, to which the Mining Code without modification would add, would worsen the situation of the native Costa Rican. That is the belief shared by the members of the Association, who also criticized the concept implicit in the legislation that "the native has no reason to protest."

After summing up the problems of each community, Adenil Zamora explained the goals of the association: self-management projects, better education and technical training for working the land, unity and solidarity with other native peoples of Spanish-speaking America, and the promotion of a more effective economic organization, which would bring about both social and cultural benefits.

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## FIRST ANNUAL REGULAR NATIONAL ASSEMBLY SESSION REPORTAGE

## Opening Session Discussion

Havana GRANMA in Spanish 3 Jul 80 pp 1-3

[Article by Jose Gabriel Guma, Enrique Mesa, Jose A. de la Osa, Ariel Rojas, Joaquin Granma and Jose A. Benitez]

[Text] The first annual regular session of the National People's Government Assembly began yesterday morning with the participation of Commander in Chief Fidel Castro, Gen Raul Castro, Maj Juan Almeida, Maj Ramiro Valdes and Maj Guillermo Garcia. The opening session was attended by 443 deputies, representing 92.1 percent of all members of the highest organ of government.

Following the national anthem and the roll call, Dr Raul Roa Garcia, acting president of the National Assembly, pronounced the quorum and declared the new period of sessions at the Convention Palace officially open. There were 11 points on the agenda.

Roa immediately announced that the recovery of Blas Roca is proceeding smoothly and that it is hoped he will soon be able to resume his important tasks before the Assembly.

In moving words, the speaker evoked the memory of Celia Sanchez Manduley, deputy and secretary of the Council of State.

The deputies rose to their feet and observed a minute of silence "in homage to one of the most extraordinary women in our history."

This testimony of admiration and respect for the distinguished revolutionary soldier responded, in Roa's words, "to a heart-felt need and an imperative of the conscience."

At the opening session deputies also remembered Alajo Carpentier and rendered "tribute to his fruitful life and loyalty to the Cuban Revolution."

Immediately thereafter, the minutes of the previous session were approved without any objections.

The agenda of the current session was also unanimously approved.

## Motor Vehicle Code

Shortly thereafter, the proposed Traffic Code was submitted to the deputies for discussion and approval. The Code contains 146 articles and will take the place of the one in effect in the country since May 1955, a code which, despite its countless modifications, no longer corresponds to current traffic conditions, the proposed development of highway traffic and the clauses and stipulations of the 1968 Vienna Conference.

The proposed Code presented for the consideration of the National Assembly is the result of continuing in-depth work that began in 1969, based on the analysis and study done by the Legal Studies Committee of the Central Committee of the party.

The need to have new motor vehicle legislation responding to Cuba's development and to the text of the aforementioned Vienna Conference, of which our country is a signatory, was foreshadowed in a Preliminary Code in 1976, drafted by the Subcommittee for the Study of Transit Problems created by the Political Bureau of the party.

In later years, work continued on the Preliminary Code and in 1978, the Temporary Committee of the National Assembly, which examined transit problems, extended it. The new version of the document was submitted to all organizations of the Central Administration, provincial executive committees of the People's Government and to political, social and mass organizations for the purpose of gathering opinions and suggestions.

The 243 proposed additions, modifications or deletions were analyzed by the Transit Subcommittee and the Temporary Committee and most were retained in a new version.

The Internal Order Committee in charge of drafting the final version created a work group made up of specialists, technicians, professionals and jurists. The newly corrected and perfected version once again circulated among all deputies and organizations. On this occasion, 336 opinions were gathered.

The basis for the drafting of the proposal was the UN Conference on Highway Traffic, the Convention on Highway Circulation and the Convention on Road Signs. These documents were ratified by the Cuban Government in 1973 and the instrument of adherence was filed with the secretary general of the United Nations in 1977.

## Discussion and Judgment

Deputy Raul Rodriguez, as acting president of the Internal Order Committee, read the judgment containing 22 modifications of the proposal in question.

Roa then read each proposed change and at the end of each one of them, asked how many agreed or disagreed. "Those in agreement with the Commission's proposal raise their hands," repeated the acting president of the National Assembly, who was aided by Jose Aranaburo, secretary of the institution.

"The Traffic Code should give rise to a lively debate," Roa observed, "inasmuch as this issue affects everyone and responds to one of the country's urgent requirements."

The first eight modifications were approved and the debate itself began with a discussion of the proposal relating to the use of freight vehicles for the mass carrying of persons involved in recreational activities.

The first person to ask for the floor was Deputy Pablo Hernandez Bello from Santa Cruz del Norte, who argued that parents going to see their children attending farm schools should be able to use such means of transportation.

At the urging of Roa, Raul Rodriguez said that he also agreed with the proposal. In this respect, he said that authorization is often given for the hauling of persons to the beach in trucks.

Julio Camacho Aguilera then asked for an analysis of types of vehicles used for such purposes since semitrailers damage beaches because of their great weight. In addition, he said that these vehicles get only 8 kilometers per gallon of gasoline.

Marta Lugioyo of Central Havana then expressed her opinion that the text should authorize the utilization of freight transport means in both cases, although with the proper regulations.

Jose Llanusa, deputy from Cardenas, emphasized that there should be no further authorization of the use of such means of transport for all political and recreational activities. Continuing his speech, he argued that trucks should be able to be used, for example, to carry daily administrators participating in specific meetings.

For his part, Eddy Fernandez Borda of Contramaestre said that there should not be an increase in the use of freight transport means and Argilio Savon, from the municipality of Nuevitaa, thought that such vehicles are being used for the purpose in question even if not authorized by the Code because of inadequate bus capacity.

Deputy Ramiro Valdes expressed the opinion that the text should be drafted in the same way and that the Ministry of Interior could set forth the additional provisions solving the case.

Juan Almeida supported Camacho's position and emphasized that a clear distinction should be made between panel trucks and pickups, on the one hand, and trailers, emphasizing that the latter should not be used.

The next speaker was Vilma Espin, who stated that on occasions, panel trucks for food were used to carry people, which should not continue.

Specifically referring to the proposal of Ramiro Valdes, Deputy Jesus Montane said that it was not viable because if the Code does not authorize it, no additional clause can.



Commander in Chief Fidel Castro then spoke to suggest that the phrase "and other duly regulated activities" be added to the text on the use of freight vehicles.

Roa expressed the opinion that this proposal would simplify the problem and provide an adequate solution. This part of the document was approved by the deputies.

The rest of the Commission's proposals, contained in the document, were also approved following speeches by Maximo Andion from Eastern Havana, Marta Perez from Guines, Jose Ramon Socarran, deputy from Jimaguayu, and other deputies.

#### Discussion of Proposed Code

Once the preceding proposal was approved, the debate itself began on the proposed Traffic Code.

Josefina Rebellion immediately expressed her concern over the requirement established by the document to use seatbelts at every front seat of light passenger vehicles when there is a general lack of such equipment.

Raul Rodriguez then explained that the proposed Code itself states in its final provisions that the Ministry of Interior will determine when that specific requirement should go into effect, precisely because of the fact pointed out by the deputy.

Alfonso Afon, Cienfuegos, then spoke and argued that the new Traffic Code should be made readily available to the public so that people may become familiar with it.

Roa said that since the Code will not go into effect until January 1981, sufficient time exists to make the text available.

Francisco Gonzalez, from Songo-la Maya, then raised his hand and expressed his concern over a powerful semitrailer truck now being built in Cuba. The vehicle will occupy a major portion of the road, which in his opinion could be in contradiction with articles of the Code.

Raul Rodriguez explained that the Ministry of Interior is authorized by the text itself to grant special permission when such a vehicle, designed to carry heavy loads, must use the roads.

The number of persons which the new Code authorizes to be carried by motorcycles with or without a sidecar was the concern expressed by Eduardo Bernabe Ordaz, from Boyeros, who underlined the danger involved when an entire family, including children, travel on one cycle.

Speaking once again, Raul Rodriguez said that the proposed Code clearly establishes that motorcycles or scooters can carry the driver in his seat,



one person behind him, if the vehicle is equipped for the purpose, and another passenger in the sidecar, if there is one.

The first paragraph of proposed Article 54 gave rise to a broad and interesting discussion. The paragraph states that one cannot drive a motor vehicle "when enough alcoholic beverages have been ingested so that their effects disturb the ability to drive."

Vilma Kapin thought that it is dangerous that the text should be so open since the ingestion of alcoholic beverages is the frequent cause of traffic accidents.

In this connection, Raul Rodriguez agreed that in principle, it would be a positive thing for "the formulation to be more categorical" and indicated that the Penal Code should also be modified.

Roa emphasized that we are in the presence of an obvious fact. An adequate solution is urgent and it is necessary to be more strict on this matter.

Raul Rodriguez added the opinion that the question could perhaps be studied jointly by the Internal Order Committee and the Constitutional and Legal Affairs Committee.

"We must be stiffer on this," Jesus Montane said.

Alberto Galvizu, deputy from Plaza, echoed the concern of Vilma Kapin and suggested that it be absolutely forbidden to drive when alcohol has been consumed. He also said that the study could be made in a matter of hours in order to reconcile the wording proposed with the existing Penal Code.

Jose R. Machado Ventura said that the problem was a practical one and that while it is necessary to establish the norm, the wording should not be totally closed.

This was also the opinion of Carmen Serrano from La Palma.

Deputy Faustino Perez argued for the establishment of a distinction in the cases of drivers of vehicles carrying large numbers of persons and those carrying only a few. He added that the ingestion of alcohol should be absolute in the case of the former but that a certain flexibility be allowed for the latter.

Expanding on the topic, Juan E. Benitez (Old Havana) emphasized that the most important thing is to save lives and that consequently, he argued for an absolute ban on driving when drinking.

For his part, Antonio Nunez Jimenez (Placetas) thought that no distinction should be made between large and small vehicles.

Elia Garcia Patino (Placetas) said that the ban on driving after drinking alcoholic beverages would not be observed and would cause problems. "The article is well-written now," he said.

Adolfo Negdadi (Bagua de Tanamo) said that the ban should not be absolute because the measure would be violated by a high number of persons. He also said that he thought it proper to establish some kind of regulation on the matter.

Vilma Espin insisted that a rigorous stand should be taken and that no legal precept should be passed making it possible to drive vehicles after drinking. She said that lawyers and doctors should analyze the level of strictness necessary.

After warning of the effects caused by drinking, Alberto Galviza said that accidents caused by persons who have been drinking are undeniable serious.

Jose M. Brito (Mariel) argued that all the rigor of the law be applied to drivers causing accidents because of alcohol.

Faustino Perez explained that it is very difficult to control such things and that in his opinion, the wording proposed by the proposed Traffic Code is acceptable for all cases in general. He repeated that the law should be stricter when it is a question of mass transport.

Deputy Reina Frometa (Cerro) said that in cases of accidents caused by the ingestion of alcoholic beverages, the person responsible should be harshly punished and no organization should be allowed to intervene in his favor.

Hector M. Rojas Bruzon (Puerto Padre) thought, based on his own experience in an area of his municipality near a beach, that it is dangerous to grant freedom for persons who have consumed alcoholic beverages to drive vehicles.

Osvaldo Dorticos then took the floor to recall that the previous Traffic Code had different wording from the current proposal and said that "we have apparently taken a softer position" on this matter. He thought that administrative fines should be imposed in cases in which persons drive motor vehicles after consuming alcohol and naturally, that the law should be strictly applied when accidents result from driving under the influence.

A recess followed these remarks.

#### Afternoon Session

Before the afternoon session began, Fidel engaged in a lively dialog with a group of deputies on some of the matters being analyzed and discussed by the Assembly. He also spoke about other current issues and mentioned the successful sugar cane cleanup operation, a task involving 86,000 caballerias [1 caballeria = 33.2 acres], much more than last year.

At 1500 hours, the session resumed with a continuation of the debate on paragraph 1 of Article 54 of the Traffic Code. Following a speech by Fidel, the Assembly approved the drafting of a new paragraph by a committee in order to include everything discussed.

There had previously been other speeches.

Deputy Osmany Cienfuegos proposed several modifications, including adding a paragraph specifying that the driver of a vehicle involved in an accident should be presumed to be guilty, unless it is proved otherwise.

Santiago Alvarez said that Cuba is not an alcoholic nation and stated that accidents caused because of the consumption of alcoholic beverages are in seventh place on the scale. However, Alvarez recognized the complexity of the matter under discussion.

For his part, Deputy Jose R. Lamar (Bejucal) said that he agreed with the proposal made by Vilma Espin and added that our laws have always benefited the great majority of the people.

Marta Lugioyo (Central Havana) requested information on the percentage of accidents caused because of the ingestion of alcoholic beverages. She was informed that in 1979, the figure was 3.1 percent, meaning 333 fewer than in 1978 for the same reason.

Armando Hart recalled that the policy in general is that in the penal order, stricter legislation than in the Traffic Code is usually enacted and that that criterion should be taken into account.

Nieves Varona (Guira de Melena) asked for clarification of the Penal Code and she was told that it was in keeping with the proposed Traffic Code.

In further remarks, Vilma Espin said that there could be two types of punishment: one when the ingestion of alcoholic beverages causes an accident and another when no alcohol is involved.

Carlos Rafael Rodriguez asked for the floor and in his remarks, said that we should take the specific conditions of our country into account, that a punishment not sanctioned by the people should not be established. He was in favor of an alternative to the two extreme positions on the matter.

Osvaldo Dorticos spoke and, among other legal considerations on the subject, said that the most prudent thing would be to postpone a decision.

#### Fidel's Speech

Deputy Fidel Castro spoke and told deputies that although he knew the discussion was very divided, he thought he should give an opinion "rather than simply saying that there is a division."

"From a moral point of view, I would go so far as to prohibit the use of alcoholic beverages by those driving, under any circumstances."

He went on to say that this was not realistic and added that he himself had often proposed that much harsher legislation should be passed. "I am of

the opinion that our Penal Code is weak and we approved it. The punishments are reduced and we approved it.

"I believe that some crimes have remained up in the air, so to speak," he said.

Fidel expressed the opinion that our Penal Code was wrong to reduce the punishment to 20 years. "I am convinced of this."

He also said that other punishments were reduced.

He stressed the idea that he thought the laws should be more severe, "especially those that defend the Revolution, and next, the laws that defend the interests of the socialist state and the people, the interests of our society."

"I am also convinced that we should wage an even harder and more consistent struggle against the lumpen and all the antisocial elements, against that entire category of people."

Fidel said that this problem could not be analyzed from only the moral point of view "because from the moral point of view, we could examine the damage done by tobacco and it may do much more damage than the accidents we are mentioning here -- as shown by any set of statistics -- but we know that we cannot prohibit people from smoking."

Dwelling on this idea, he said that "we cannot stop people from smoking, even though stopping would not only be a tremendous benefit to health, but to the economy as well."

"We could say that the benefits we would reap from not smoking would amount to tens of millions of dollars," he emphasized.

"My fear is that we shall be approving prohibitions that later run the risk of not being obeyed, of being systematically disobeyed." And he added: "That is what we must analyze."

Fidel said that he was not concerned about not arriving at total prohibition "because we still have time to do so" and he added that he was not sure that the preceding (Code) had prohibition, except by induction, since there was the 20-peso fine.

Fidel referred to the diverse proposals formulated by Faustino Perez, William Galvez and Antonio Nunez Jimenez and said that what another comrade had stated before the Assembly was true. The problem does not affect all the people because "not all the people have automobiles."

"It is also true that it affects many of us present to a greater extent, many of us who have responsibilities and who have automobiles."



He added that "there are also comrades here who we might say do not have to be concerned in any way about the law because we never drive or almost never drive, having comrades drive our cars for us."

Fidel said that there were tens of thousands of other persons, technicians and professional persons who have purchased cars and who go to restaurants to have a glass of beer at lunchtime. "Then there are thousands and thousands of other workers now buying vehicles, not automobiles, but motorcycles."

He said that last year, 20,000 motorcycles were sold and that over 20,000 have been sold this year.

"There will come a time when we shall have hundreds of thousands of persons with motor vehicles or cycles."

"In other words, the problem is bound to become more complex and we do not know -- at least, I do not know -- how in practice a so-called total prohibition would work unless, on the other hand, alcoholism were to become a real problem for our Revolution."

He went on to say that he did not believe there was any other country with less alcoholism than our own and added that "the level of accidents due to alcoholic beverages is not very high."

"Although naturally, if there are only a thousand such persons with these problems, morally we would have to be concerned about them."

Referring to a speech by Francisco Gonzalez, Fidel said that "what Pancho meant is that the number of accidents resulting because of the irresponsibility of people is infinitely higher than the number resulting from these things, from a lack of skill, a lack of strictness in the matter of licenses, violations of traffic laws."

Returning to the subject of motorcycles, he said that "one of the things we proposed was that they should not be distributed in the capital" and added that "only certain factories on the outskirts of the capital receive motorcycles."

"All motorcycles are distributed in the interior," he said.

"I remember that I was always concerned about motorcycles being sold in this country because I know that their sale causes who knows how many accidents, and I am truly horrified when I see in the street a motorcycle with a sidecar carrying a woman and two or three children."

Fidel said that one day, while traveling from Rejusal to Quivicán in order to visit a farm, he saw a campesino on a motorcycle with his wife and three children. "He was waving at everyone; he waved at every person that went by. When I passed him, I told him, 'Don't wave! Drive slowly!'"



Parenthetically, Fidel added the information that a railroad track crosses that particular road three times within 2 kilometers because "no one has yet had the idea of proposing that the line be straightened so that it would cross the highway only once."

He also said that in Ciego de Avila, he had met another campesino traveling with his family on a motorcycle "and very enthusiastically, in a very revolutionary mood, he was greeting everyone around." Fidel had also told him to "go slow," but "he didn't go very slow even then!"

Referring to the sales of motorcycles, Fidel said that if one were to act in a truly conservative and moral way, motorcycles would not be sold.

"And yet, workers in factories and many other places want motorcycles. In many cases, they need them because of transportation problems in many sugar cane mill areas and where there are industries in the interior. It would be impossible for us to say, 'We simply are not going to sell motorcycles.'"

He explained that this meant that many more workers are going to have vehicles and "I wish that we could obtain small vehicles for technicians and also for skilled workers and laborers.

"It can be assumed that as time passes, a greater number of persons will have vehicles."

Fidel went on to say that it is true that when a larger number of individuals have vehicles, "we shall have to be stricter and more rigorous in all these transport problems.

"I am saying all of this because I do not think that we should arrive at absolute prohibition but rather, at a nearly absolute regulation -- that is, very different from what we have. There must be very restrictive regulation so that we shall not have a situation of thousands or perhaps tens of thousands of persons committing that infraction every day and so that we shall not have to call in the police because what else could we do?"

He added that what Osmany said is true: How is the problem to be controlled in practice?

Fidel said that there could be a wording discouraging anyone drinking from driving motor vehicles. "But in addition, I do believe that there should be total prohibition when workers are on the job or in the case of persons driving vehicles carrying freight or passengers."

He admitted that although it is true that an individual driving a motorcycle can kill someone, there is no doubt that there is a greater danger when a driver of a Santiago-Havana bus on a narrow road has had three or four beers on the road, or when a semitrailer truck driver has had three or four beers on the road.

"It is much more dangerous even than when a person riding a motorbike or cycle has had three beers."

Going further, he said that "it seems to me that there is greater responsibility when an individual is providing a service for the population than when a person is going to the beach on a weekend on his motorcycle or in his car.

"It is undeniable that there is more responsibility involved when a bus is carrying 100 persons to the beach than when an individual takes his family to the beach in an automobile. It is undeniable that a comrade carrying 50 persons in a truck has more responsibility than another individual in a car. There can be no doubt about it. No matter what happens, whether a driver is taking workers to a mobilization, families to a school or workers to a place of recreation, that individual has greater responsibility."

Fidel said that he would make some distinction between the cases, for example, greater strictness in the case of an individual driving a bus with 100 passengers than in the case of a person driving a personal automobile with the family. "And naturally, the responsibility must be established every time there is an infraction or an accident as an aggravating circumstance."

He said that these were the ideas that he would defend and that he thought it was his duty to propose this criterion: an absolute ban on the ingestion of alcoholic beverages whenever a vehicle carrying passengers or freight is involved. Likewise, the driver of a vehicle should be prohibited from consuming any quantity of alcohol that might affect his ability to drive, no matter how small, if it can be seen that his ability to drive is affected.

"This is not absolute prohibition," Fidel emphasized, "but it is highly restrictive."

He emphasized that there should also be a prohibition of the consumption of alcoholic beverages for drivers of private vehicles in any amount affecting the ability to drive "because naturally, Vilma (Espín) and Santiago (Alvarez) have said that even a little alcohol affects reflexes. However, this has not been shown or certified by any specialist."

He added that if what Vilma and Santiago claim is true, then this condition amounts to absolute prohibition: any quantity affecting the ability to drive. "If a cubic centimeter of beer affects the ability to drive, then we would have prohibition," he reflected.

"Consequently, this does not bind us and with respect to regulation and with all the grounds we need, we can be as rigorous as we wish, and if it is scientifically shown, then we are applying this principle in our regulation or application.

"In other words, we even have time with a formulation of this type. It should even be drafted to be stricter and then add that no matter how small

the quantity, the ingestion of alcohol will always be considered an aggravating circumstance in case of traffic accidents or violations. It will always be an aggravating circumstance because what the law is aimed at above all is to prevent accidents from occurring."

Fidel specified that he was expressing these ideas, not so that they would be included, but rather, "since many comrades have given their opinions one way or another, I also wanted to give my opinion on the matter."

He added that the committee or group in charge of the final draft could bring its proposal to the session tomorrow (today), whether it is deemed that total prohibition is the answer or if Osmany's proposal should be followed or if the opinions expressed here should be included.

"These are the ideas that I wanted to express," Fidel said.

At the conclusion of his remarks, general applause from the deputies was heard in the Assembly.

After 1600 hours and following Fidel's speech, Raul Roa submitted the idea, for the subsequent approval of the Assembly, that the Internal Order and Public Health committees should meet to examine the ideas expressed by Fidel and the other deputies and arrive at a new formulation. The new proposal will be submitted for the consideration of delegates at today's morning session (Thursday), following which the Traffic Code will be voted upon.

#### International Activities

Aleida March, deputy from Manicaragua and chairwoman of the International Relations Committee of the National People's Government Assembly, read a report on the international activities of that organ during the period from January to June of this year.

The document states that the international activities of the National Assembly during that 6-month period took place within an international context marked by a multifaceted escalation of American imperialism, which has brought the world to the brink of war and one of whose centers has been the aggressive and provocative campaign against the Cuban Revolution and national liberation movements in the Caribbean, especially El Salvador, Nicaragua, Jamaica and Granada.

Reference was also made to tasks completed by the Parliamentary Group of the National Assembly at the Advisory Meeting of Socialist Countries held in Bulgaria in February, the session of the Interparliamentary Council held in Oslo, Norway, and working visits made: to the Finnish Parliament, the meeting of governors of the great cities of the world held in Milan, Italy, and the work of the Parliamentary Group for Peace of the National Assembly held in Helsinki. References were also made to bilateral exchanges with other countries, by virtue of which various visiting delegations traveled to Cuba.

## People's Supreme Court

Subsequently, the judgment of the Report of the People's Supreme Court for 1979 was submitted for discussion by Deputy Marta Lugioyo.

José M. Castillo (Matanzas) opened the discussion by noting the number of appeals heard by the People's Provincial Courts. He said that out of 13,638 appeals, 5,739 had been accepted, and the judgment expressed the opinion that there were still deficiencies in the quality of work of the municipal courts.

"Nevertheless," Deputy Castillo said, "we have learned that certain criteria have been proposed relating to the ways in which these cases 'with grounds' have been evaluated."

He then asked whether the National Assembly's Constitutional and Legal Affairs Committee had, when expressing the opinion that there are deficiencies of the municipal courts, taken into consideration the criteria which the municipal courts had used.

Deputy Marta Lugioyo answered that the data provided were reflected in the report of the Supreme Court but that nowhere was it stated whether the criteria of the municipal courts were taken into account in drafting the report.

She added that the Committee had come to the conclusion that there are deficiencies because if, out of 13,000 appeals, only a little over 5,000 had been accepted as being 'with grounds,' then the percentage is high, meaning that when an appeal was made to the highest court, it was considered that the ruling at the lower level was incorrect.

Deputy Castillo once again spoke to express certain difficulties faced by the municipal courts, such as the lack of proof and documents in the records and the failure to keep records up to date. He disagreed with the Committee's evaluation of the municipal courts.

Deputy Rafael Valdes (Morón) then spoke on the same subject, pointing out that although he was not aware of the situation described by Deputy Castillo relating to the country, "we do have eloquent proof that the problems in Ciego have essentially occurred at the level of the province."

He said that it was necessary to talk with comrades on the courts in the provinces because they did not take a group of factors into account. The technical aspect was sometimes given more consideration -- that is, a period, a comma, a word -- in judging someone, even when it was known that the individual was a criminal, than the very reason why the person was being tried.

He added that based on what Marta Lugioyo had said, the Committee based its work on the data of the report, meaning that a quantitative rather than



a qualitative analysis had been made. Deputy Edilia Cordero (Venezuela) echoed the concern of Castillo and Deputy Gloria Ruiz Echemendia (Minas) later referred to the situation existing in the judgment with respect to accused persons being provisionally held in prison, in which case "every 15 days, an examination must be made of cases having exceeded 60 days in the oral trial phase." She asked for an explanation of the situation, since the judgment does not contain one, not even in the recommendations made.

Lugioyo said that the measure proposed in the report was in the judgment but that there was no analysis of how it is carried out.

She said that page 22 of the report refers to a recommendation which the Supreme Court has made to its magistrates, to the effect that reporters have the obligation every 15 days of reviewing cases over 60 days old, in order to learn what documents are missing, the reasons for the delay, so that the 180 days stipulated as the maximum are not exceeded.

Narcen Lopez (Palma Soriano) spoke about the initial topic brought up by Jose M. Castillo Ruiz and added that it was important to take up the matter of provisional prison with the provincial courts. He said that there are many cases in which citizens sentenced to provisional jail terms are absolved after 6 or 8 months and it is necessary to pay them a sum of money for the time spent in prison. They must later be reintegrated into society as more workers, even after they have lost their jobs. This is a rather serious problem because of the time lost in proceedings.

The deputy from the Isle of Youth, Jesus Montano, ask that for a modification of the judgment with respect to the quality of work being done by the municipal courts so that the report would not remain as is. In addition, he proposed that in the recommendations, a more thorough analysis be made of the deficiencies. All of this was approved.

Alfredo Guevara (Plaza) proposed a modification in another paragraph of the judgment, stating that one concept was not clearly expressed.

Fidel spoke to request that a decision be made on the proposal of Alfredo Guevara and suggested that the committee that drafted the report be asked to provide a new draft. Roa said that it was possible that the committee itself might modify the paragraph in question "because it is obviously confusing and nebulous."

The report and judgment were voted upon and approved.

#### Elections of New Presiding Magistrate of People's Supreme Court

Dr Raul Roa then read a communication from the president of the Council of State and head of the government stating that, due to a vacancy in the post of presiding magistrate of the People's Supreme Court as a result of the retirement of the person previously holding the post, Dr Enrique Hart Ramirez, he proposes that Dr Jose Raul Amaro Salut be elected by the Assembly.



He also read a communication from the minister of the Revolutionary Armed Forces and the minister of justice in which, in keeping with the Law on the Organization of the Judicial System, they submit for the consideration of the Assembly the candidacy of lay judges from the Military Chamber of the People's Supreme Court.

Another communication from the minister of justice submits to the Assembly the candidacy of lay judges from the Chamber of Penal, Civil, Administrative Affairs and Crimes Against State Security. Another letter from the minister of justice submits the candidacy of lay judges from the Labor Chamber of the Supreme Court.

Approval was subsequently given to the election returns committee proposed by Jose Aranaburo, secretary of the Assembly, and made up of deputies Roberto Ogando (as chairman of the committee), Alina Trujillo Diaz, Paula Cabrera Olivares, Nilda Bravo Cesar, Alfonso Afon Rifat, Aida Gonzalez Ballo, Zenaida Hidalgo Espinosa, Vidal Amaya Tamayo, Vera Bueno Alonso, Aurora Young Estevez, Manuel Gutierrez Hernandez, Oneida del Toro Rosales, Alfredo Bagdadi Herrera, Josefina Heredia Alcolea and Dulce A. Gutierrez Fernandez.

The election returns committee then immediately proceeded to distribute ballots to the deputies, who had previously been given the biographies of the candidates. The president of the Assembly also explained that voting would be done in secret in the proper booths.

Commander in Chief Fidel Castro, Gen Raul Castro and other members of the Council of State began the voting, followed by the rest of the deputies. The voting concluded the session, which will resume at 0900 hours this morning, at which time the results of the voting done the previous afternoon will be announced.

At today's session (Thursday), the Assembly will receive, for its discussion and approval, the proposed Organic Law Concerning the State Budgetary System and the Soil Reclamation and Inland Waters Preservation Bill.

In addition, the provincial assemblies and the special Isle of Youth municipality will give their reports, orders-in-council and decisions of the Council of State will be confirmed and the report on supervision of the National Assembly accord referring to the procedure for responding to complaints and suggestions from citizens will be read.

#### Opening Remarks by Raul Roa

Havana GRANMA in Spanish 3 Jul 80 p 1

[Text] Evoking the memory of comrade Celia Sanchez, deputy and secretary of the Council of State, before beginning our work is a heart-felt need and an imperative of the conscience. Celia has physically left us when we needed her the most, but her presence is still with us and will remain with us, alive, winged, blazing, radiant. Not only will she continue to serve after her death; the light that illuminated her actions, her feelings, her works

and her virtues will always shine over the path of the Cuban Revolution. It was not in vain that she served it with exemplary self-abnegation, heroism, generosity and modesty.

That unfading and instructive memory will accompany us forever, spiritually entwined with the two immortal banners waving over the sessions of the National People's Government Assembly.

I ask for a minute of silence in homage to one of the most extraordinary women in our history. (A minute of silence.)

We must also pause on the threshold of this session to remember Alejo Carpentier, who recently passed away at the height of his exceptional creative faculties. A writer of genuinely Cuban genius, a man who explored the deepest roots of our America as a human, cultural and spiritual entity of universal projections, he gave the best and most enduring part of his work to us during the new period beginning in 1959. He enjoyed the high honor of being elected deputy to this Assembly.

I propose a minute of silence in tribute to his fruitful life and his loyalty to the Cuban Revolution.

#### Comment on Opening Session

Havana GRANMA in Spanish 3 Jul 80 p 2

[Commentary by Jose A. Benitez: "Heartfelt Need"]

[Text] The first annual regular session of the National People's Government Assembly of 1980 began yesterday at the Convention Palace with a response to a "heart-felt need."

The deputies rose to their feet to observe a moment of silence in homage to an absent -- and present -- comrade, one who put self-denial and generosity into her life, who encouraged sacrifice and placed faith in the future in the future, who left her mark on the people's feelings, who brought unity into national life, who gave everything she had with modesty and to creative work and who bestowed on her people all the love a human being can profess.

The first annual regular session of 1980 of the National People's Government Assembly began yesterday as everything must begin: with a minute of silence for Celia Sanchez.

The deputies devoted another moment of silence to the memory of Alejo Carpentier, who recently died.

The judgments that were to be heard, the bills that were to be debated and the reports that would be given would come later: the proposed Traffic Code, the Assembly's report on international activity, the proposed Organic Law Concerning the State Budgetary System, the Soil Reclamation and Inland Waters Preservation Bill, the report of the People's Supreme Court and the report of the Office of Attorney General of the Republic.

The National People's Government Assembly has grown and is strong. A desire to work, the capacity to do so, a unanimous determination to do one's duty simply and naturally can be observed on the faces, in the gestures and in the speeches of the deputies.

The concerns and observations expressed by the deputies concerning the proposed Traffic Code as an instrument for the prevention of accidents, whose discussion occupied nearly the entire morning, basically revolved around the safety of the human being and involved a great deal of understanding, respect, human solidarity and genuine concern.

It was logical that the concern, observations and preoccupations should revolve around these feelings because the National People's Government Assembly is made up of workers, representing all the country's workers, who spoke as deputies and workers interested in the safety of their class brothers.

In the final analysis, a deputy is in our society a worker interested in the welfare and safety of all workers.

There are no grandiloquent speeches in the debates and discussions of the bills, judgments and reports, nor elegant paragraphs and abstract expressions. What one hears are live, high-spirited words. Speeches and phrases are concrete, like the blow of a gun butt, and solid, like the root of a tree.

At yesterday's session, it became crystal clear how right Fidel was when he said, upon the establishment of the National Assembly on 2 December 1976, that "not all the men and women of merit in our country are in this Assembly and it would be impossible for all of them to be here, but all those who are here are men and women of unquestionable merit, worthy representatives of the entire nation."

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## REPORT ON CLOSING SESSION OF NATIONAL ASSEMBLY

### Last Session Summarized

Havana GRANMA in Spanish 4 Jul 80 pp 1, 3, 4

[Article by Jose Gabriel Guma, Enrique Mesa, Ariel Rojas, Joaquin Gramea and Jose A. de la Osa: "Unanimous Resolution of National Assembly Approving Courageous, Firm National and International Actions of Revolutionary Government Based on Events Initiated at Peruvian Embassy"]

[Text] The first regular session of the 1980 ANPP [National People's Government Assembly] ended yesterday with a speech by Commander in Chief Fidel Castro. All the deputies stood and vigorously raised their hands to give their affirmative vote to a unanimous resolution of the ANPP approving the courageous and firm national and international actions of the revolutionary government based on the events initiated at the Peruvian Embassy.

The ANPP also by acclamation wholly supported the words spoken by Fidel in that last work session.

As on the previous workday, yesterday's meeting was presided over by Commander in Chief Fidel Castro, Army Gen Raul Castro, Commanders of the Revolution Juan Almeida, Ramiro Valdes and Guillermo Garcia and other members of the Council of State.

On this last workday which lasted until 2040 hours, the deputies approved different bills and reports, some of which were the subject of intense debates.

During the morning session, the Traffic Code and the Organic Law of the State Budgetary System were passed. The debate on land rehabilitation and inland water preservation was suspended so that a bill that covers more aspects could be drawn up for the next session in December.

In the afternoon session, the accounts of the Attorney General's Office and the accounts of the provincial people's government assemblies and the Isle of Youth municipality for 1979 were approved. Decree laws and agreements of the Council of State were ratified and changes in the membership of some



standing committees of the ANPP were approved. Also the report on supervision of the ANPP agreement on the procedure for handling citizen's grievances and suggestions was approved.

#### Morning Session

When Raul Roa Garcia, acting president of the ANPP, began the debates again at 0900 hours, 446 deputies were present at the Palacio de las Convenciones. This is 93.1 percent of the total members of the supreme organ of state power.

Roberto Ogando (Isle of Youth), chairman of the Electoral Commission, was at the podium first. He announced that Dr Jose Raul Amaro Salut was elected president of the Supreme People's Tribunal to fill the vacancy left by Dr Enrique Hart Ramirez who retired after more than 50 years of distinguished work as judge and magistrate.

Amaro Salut received 448 votes of the total 449. The lay judges of the Supreme People's Tribunal were also elected and should take office within 15 days.

#### Traffic Code

At Roa's request, deputy Raul Rodriguez, chairman of the Internal Order Committee, read the new text of Article 54 of the Traffic Code bill.

That article had led to wide-ranging debates on the previous workday and had been rewritten the night before by the deputies on the Internal Order Committee and the Health and Environment Committee.

The new text establishes in the first clause that no one can drive a motor vehicle used for the transportation of passengers or cargo when he has drunk alcoholic beverages.

A clause was also added that no one can drive a vehicle for personal use when he has drunk alcoholic beverages in any quantity that affects, even minimally, his ability to drive.

The rest of the article was worded the same as in the original bill but a paragraph would be added at the end that the ingestion of alcoholic beverages in any quantity is considered an aggravating circumstance of responsibility in case of an accident or other traffic crime.

Deputy Fidel Castro asked what would happen if it was a violation instead of a crime which involved ingestion of alcoholic beverages.

Raul Rodriguez answered that the committee advisers indicated that the violation as such does not technically have aggravating circumstances.



Fidel insisted a formula should be found to establish aggravating circumstances even in the case of violations and suggested, as an example, an increase in the amount of the fine.

An adviser recommended that Fidel's proposal be added as a new clause to the same article so that when alcoholic beverages have been ingested, the violator would pay an additional fine.

This and the previous proposals to amend the mentioned Article 54 were accepted by the deputies and immediately approved unanimously.

At the end of the fruitful and profound discussion of this important bill, Roa submitted it to a vote. The raised hands of the 446 deputies present approved the Traffic Code bill and its amendments.

Then Raul Rodriguez announced that a proposal by deputy Eduardo Bernabe Ordaz (Boyeros) was examined with interest in the discussion between the Internal Order Committee and the Health and Environment Committee. He suggested the manufacture within the country or acquisition abroad of some means to permit the authorities to quickly detect the ingestion and degree of ingestion of alcoholic beverages after an accident.

He indicated that there are simple mechanisms in other countries, including socialist countries.

The recommendation of both committees was read to the ANPP and Roa, assisted by Jose Aranaburo, ANPP secretary, reported that the Presidency had taken note of that suggestion.

#### State Budgetary System

As the next item on the agenda, deputy Jose R. Lamar Mas of the Planning, Finance and Budget Committee read the recommendation on the bill for the Organic Law of the State Budgetary System.

Then Roa read each one of the five proposed amendments for that bill which were approved unanimously.

Deputy Alfredo Guevara stated that he totally agreed with the text of the law but he was not a specialist in economics although he had the experience of directing a work sector--the movies--for 21 years. He felt that if the information that he had was inadequate for him, probably it would be for other deputies too.

Specifically Guevara asked that the specialists offer a technical explanation right then or outside the session on the interrelationship existing between JUCEPLAN [Central Planning Board], the State Committee for Finance and the National Bank of Cuba.

There were several speeches on important aspects of the national economy and the essential functions of the organizations that they head by: Humberto Perez, vice president of the Council of Ministers and president of JUCEPLAN; Francisco Garcia Valls, minister-president of the State Committee for Finance; and Raul Leon, president of the National Bank of Cuba.

During the session, Guevara asked more questions.

Garcia Valls confirmed that foreign currency is not in any part of the budget since this is based on the Cuban peso. Humberto Perez recalled that the budget was started in 1977. Raul Leon observed that Cuba carries out all its operations with CEMA countries using transferable rubles.

At this point in the session, Julio Canacho Aguilera pleaded for maximum effort so that the administrators and other economic leaders of enterprises attend the courses of the Economic Leadership School which, he emphasized, will help them in their tasks.

A little later, Faustino Perez observed that it was necessary to introduce a slight change in one of the clauses of Article 16 of the mentioned bill. That article concerns the allocation of expenditures of the state budget and the clause in question involves financing of housing and community services.

After several speeches, the deputies agreed that there was an error in the mentioned clause which was corrected by omitting several words.

Faustino Perez also inquired about Article 45. In one of its clauses, it provides that the provincial people's government assemblies will discuss the bills for the provincial budgets although, in practice, they are examined and approved only by the executive committees, according to the speaker.

Jose Aranaburo reported that the local, provincial and municipal organs have a very limited time for discussion of the budget but insisted that the provincial assemblies should examine the budget bill.

In this part of the debate, Eddy Fernandez Boada (Contramaestre) generally supported Faustino Perez' statement.

On the other hand, Lionel Soto felt that the provision in the bill about discussion of the provincial budget bill in the provincial assemblies is appropriate now and in the future in relation to democratization of decisions that are made centrally.

He added that it is very important to hear the opinions of the territories, the party and the local people's government organs.

He also said that the fact that the discussions at any given moment are overlooked is a matter of administrative leadership and planning of those

discussions. He emphasized that we must not confuse a question of principles, which we should establish in law and in our work, with deficiencies, difficulties or inadequacies in our work planning. He concluded by pleading that the text remain as it is in the bill.

Osmany Cienfuegos (Cerro) warned, then, that if the above-mentioned article is amended, it will also be necessary to amend the general regulation approved by the ANPP itself on provinces and municipalities.

Expanding on the subject, Orlando Lugo (Guane) stated that, in practice, provincial budget bills are not discussed at the provincial assemblies but are examined in the executive committees because of lack of time.

In another speech, Osmany Cienfuegos supported Lionel Soto's point of view and pointed out the importance for budget bills to be discussed in provincial assemblies.

Carlos Rafael Rodriguez fully supported Lionel Soto and Osmany Cienfuegos and said that it is necessary to distinguish problems of principle from operational problems.

He added that operational problems should never lead to setting aside principles.

He continued that the principle of development of the construction of socialism and communism imposes maximum participation of the citizens in all activities of state leadership. It also imposes maximum participation of the workers in the elaboration and execution of the plan. We have to work in that direction and anything we do not achieve will be a deficiency in the operation of socialism.

Immediately after, the speaker indicated that, consequently, the party as well as the ANPP and all the administrative levels should work hard to achieve that maximum participation.

He explained that this also refers to the operations of the representative assemblies of the country, the ANPP and the provincial assemblies.

He said there are problems, there are inadequacies, there is ignorance and there is lack of development even in the administrative cadres and among those of us who participate in these things concerning problems that we have to discuss.

He observed that if atomic energy problems were brought to the ANPP, almost none of those present would know what the basic aspects were scientifically. However, he emphasized that that does not mean that we do not have to make efforts to learn about what we have to make decisions on and to participate in everything we should.

Carlos Rafael Rodriguez insisted that we will transform democracy into technocracy through facileness, defeatism and problems. We let one group of persons decide everything because we do not know about it or because we do not have time.

He recalled that Ruben Martinez Villena, speaking of the problems of the party, once said that we had to be very careful not to convert the dictatorship of the proletariat into a dictatorship of the secretariat.

We are going to be careful with these things. The organs of the party and the government will participate fully in everything and we will avoid facileness, he added.

Faustino Perez agreed that no principle should be violated and that it is necessary to fulfill the norms.

After other speeches by deputies Adolfo Bogdadi (Sagua de Tanamo), Ricardo Cruz Sanchez (Guanabacoa), Caridad Pantoja (Manzanillo), Edilia Cordero (Venezuela) and Jose Aranaburo, among others, the bill for the Organic Law of the State Budgetary System and its amendments were approved unanimously.

#### Wide-Ranging Debate on Bill for Land Rehabilitation and Inland Water Preservation Law

The bill for the Land Rehabilitation and Inland Water Preservation Law inspired many speeches which ended when the assembly agreed to suspend the debate. In its next session in December, a bill that will also cover land and forest preservation as well as other related matters will be submitted to discussion.

The discussion of the bill began at 1130 hours and lasted until the morning session ended. The recommendation of the Health and Environment Committee was presented by deputy Carmen Serrano Verdura.

After the recommendation and bill were submitted for discussion, Antonio Nunez Jimenez stated that inadequate agricultural use of the land should be added to the proposal for Article 1 since inappropriate use had to figure in the damage that can be done to land if universally established norms are not fulfilled.

Luis Mendez Morejon proposed that it was more appropriate to use the term "tillage" instead of use; Nunez Jimenez agreed.

Raul Castro asked to speak in order to explain that the present Article 1 provides that the state organizations, the political, social and mass organizations, their enterprises, the cooperatives, private farmers and every other natural or legal person "are obliged to adopt the measures required for ultimate land rehabilitation and water preservation," etc.



He added that he agreed with Nunez Jimenez but explained that this law has different objectives. If the law states that "they are obliged" and if how the slopes of hills or mountains should be sown is added, immediately after this law was passed, all cultivations on the Sierra Maestra would have to be prohibited. This is one well-known and unfortunate example because part of the Sierra is being destroyed. He pointed out that the law has a different objective and that was an observation he wanted to make about Nunez Jimenez' proposal.

He said that when the law states that "they are obliged to adopt the measures," then anyone who sows but does not sow as Nunez Jimenez said is already violating this law. The objective of this law is different.

Raul explained that if a mining enterprise ruins a hill to mine ores, it is obligated to rehabilitate it. If the Ministry of Construction digs a quarry or anything like that someplace and then abandons it, this is prohibited. It has to rehabilitate it. In some cases the state will pay for this out of the state budget as the law under discussion provides and in other cases the enterprises will pay.

Jose R. Machado Ventura spoke up that the title of the law mentions land rehabilitation. When it refers to land, it is rehabilitation but when it refers to water, it speaks of preservation. Nunez Jimenez refers to preservation. In spite of agreeing with him, he questioned whether it would be appropriate in the law under discussion.

Felix Duque asked to speak in order to explain that, in addition to the term "rehabilitate," the idea of "conservation" should be implicit in the law because rehabilitate means working on something that has already occurred. The spirit of the law should tend to protect the land which is our principal wealth, our basic means of production. He added that it seems to him that the law was urgently needed but it did not really cover everything concerning the care and rational use of the land.

Raul spoke again to repeat the objectives of the law. He explained that it is necessary to ruin the hill in order to mine nickel from the mountains. It is necessary to take off the top soil to extract the nickel. He added that the objective of this law is that the enterprise that extracts resources from the land will be subsequently obliged to return the top soil that it took off, sow pines again and pines will rise again. He repeated that that is the objective of the law. He indicated that Nunez Jimenez' proposal would have to be included in another law with another objective.

Raul added that that is why the law does not say "protect" or what has to be protected. In order to mine nickel, it is necessary to hurt the hill. What should be avoided is for the person who hurts it to go away to another hill and leave behind that lunar landscape that we have in Nicaro, Moa, Mayari Abajo, etc. It is to prevent the builder who, by necessity, digs a quarry but then leaves the hole there or any other organization that destroys for a reason but afterward is not concerned with reconstructing. This is what the law wants to prevent.



Nunez Jimenez said he agreed with Raul as to the objective of the law but the title is a general title for land rehabilitation and water preservation. Therefore, the general title of the law implies that it should concern all those phenomena that alter the quality of the land. He proposed that the title of the law be more specific.

Osmany Clenfuegos asked to speak to explain that this bill came about precisely at Raul's request and in the beginning only referred to land rehabilitation. Later inland water preservation was included.

Osmany said that the objective of the law, as Raul had explained, is a limited objective; it is for rehabilitation as had been explained. Naturally, the assembly would eventually include a water law that would cover more than the text being discussed. It will also eventually have to have a law on land conservation. He said that if conservation were included, other things would have to be included in the rest of the law; that is, to regulate how that is going to be supervised. In his opinion, if land conservation were added as has been presented, the law under discussion would have to be postponed to make it more complete.

Osmany added that perhaps the law under discussion could cover rehabilitation and subsequent legislation could cover Nunez Jimenez' ideas.

Felix Duque spoke again to state that the law is necessary and its articles implicitly include some obligations of those who exploit the land. Although it is true that geological prospecting, mineral exploitation, extraction of quarries, etc. have affected the land, the appropriate organizations are obliged to reconstruct these areas even if such damage is not even the tiniest part of the damage that has been done to our land historically. He said that there has been a great conspiracy against our land ever since the Spaniards disembarked which has lasted throughout the entire capitalist stage; we are still destroying the land now.

He added emphatically that the country needs a land law that really preserves the land. Some articles in the law under discussion refer to the need for cooperatives, state enterprises, etc. to become aware of the problem.

He added that the law includes land conservation even if it does not want to. He believed that that could disguise it so he did not agree with the law itself. Also, asking the pardon of the comrades who were in charge of the bill, he thought that the Academy of Sciences, the Ministry of Agriculture and the ANPP Agriculture and Livestock Committee should actively participate in writing the law. He stated that he believed that norms should be dictated for land exploitation, land management, and this law should include them.

Nunez Jimenez spoke again to express his opinion that the solution lies in the title of the law. He proposed that it be called the bill for land

rehabilitation and water preservation through industrial intervention. This would leave all the future part on general use of water and land to a possible future law.

Carlos Rafael Rodriguez spoke to call attention to the fact that what Nunez Jimenez just stated about industrial intervention was not totally exact since Articles 6, 7 and 8 mention "the land for agricultural use which is affected in the future by erosion or salinity" and Article 8 states that "when the land for agricultural use is affected in the future as a consequence of other adverse natural phenomena or catastrophes." Therefore, not just industrial uses are being considered. He said that he understood that the law was a useful law and that its discussion should not be suspended. Rather, the problems of land protection should be left for a later law. He added that the problems presented correctly by Felix Duque and Nunez Jimenez are serious but he felt they should be discussed at another time.

Julio Camacho Aguilera stated that the recommendation and the bill should still be discussed because they do not at all prevent subsequent work on the entire scope of conservation and protection of our land and our water. He repeated that that was not impeded and, therefore, what was in the law should continue to be discussed since these are not only industrial questions. He said that he did not think it was inappropriate to exhaust the subject under discussion and continue working on a law that could perhaps, when discussed, replace aspects of this law or even replace it in its entirety. However, the law being analyzed was a beginning; it begins to protect some damage that is seen frequently.

Felix Duque spoke again to explain that it did not seem inappropriate to continue discussing the law although it particularly concerned him that it was urgent for the country to have a law regulating land use and management and that part of the articles of the bill being debated can meet this need to a degree.

Raul Castro again spoke to explain that he fully agreed with Nunez Jimenez and that on many occasions, in different places in the country, he has commented on those matters. Therefore, he was fully in agreement with Felix Duque also.

Raul added that perhaps because he was born near the places that most impressed him--around the nickel mines--where he fought more than 20 years ago, he has been able to verify in the course of those years, especially in the past 20 years, the destruction that has occurred. He added that Duque, with reason, said that since the Spaniards arrived and also after the triumph of the revolution but, in truth, it is necessary to say that we have done great harm in some ways since the triumph of the revolution. The worst is that we are not yet aware of this because the capitalists frequently did not comply with their laws but they had them.

He recalled that being in those same places years ago with comrade Fidel and on other occasions without precisely meeting him there, Fidel has also asked when we are going to stop this destruction. Raul said he frequently visits the Pinares de Mayari and that there are some magnificent dairy farms and some magnificent genetic centers there because of the altitude and the climate. It is said, as is true, that there is a mountain of minerals there and that the excavators of the Nicaro mines will eventually arrive to begin to extract nickel.

Raul commented that he has seen the extraction of ore from land and from a helicopter. Tractors and bulldozers come, take off the top soil, throw it over a cliff, thereby hurting the vegetation under the slopes, dig their holes, take their nickel and go away.

He explained that in coordination with Miguel Cano, first secretary of the party in Holguin Province, and with the ministry responsible for those activities, in some places, instead of pushing the top soil over the cliff, they take away as much as necessary, extract their ore and then the tractors return to push the top soil on top again.

He indicated that some plants were obtained which were not the typical pines but they have been tried in that "lunar landscape" and they have begun to grow well. He explained that it is not a great wood tree but it helps preserve the land.

He emphasized that Felix Duque was right in what he stated but he feared that another 10 years would pass and the Mayari plateau would be "eaten up," to cite only one example, and we would still be here waiting for Nunez Jimenez' and Duque's law. We would not have solved the problem. This is a first step, as was stated. He added that he was the one who proposed the law which was written in the executive committee of the Council of Ministers, distributed on three occasions and the opinions of many comrades gathered. Later the water part was included. Nevertheless, if someone in the ANPP committed himself--he thought that Nunez Jimenez and Duque might--and the comrades of the corresponding committees to bring a complete law that included everything to the next session of the ANPP within 6 months, he would be willing to propose withdrawal of the law under discussion. Naturally, it would have to be in the next session of the ANPP. He pointed out that the law under discussion could be approved but if the commitment to bring a complete law was made, it could be accepted that a law that covered everything would be taken to the assembly. However, things should not be left so that 10 years pass and the Mayari plateau is "eaten up" when the other nickel factories in Moa are through with that area, with the consequences derived from that. We would not have taken any measures, not even the first steps to protect our small country.

Duque again asked to speak. He said he agreed with Raul's statements and he believed that the law under discussion could be approved whenever the commitment was made to bring a more complete law to the next session. He

did not believe that this should not be approved because of the commitment to write a more complete law but, on the contrary, it should be approved and we should commit ourselves also to bringing a more complete law to the next session.

Fidel asked to speak to state that he felt Raul's statements were more reasonable because otherwise it would be an incomplete law. He explained that the law under discussion had a clear objective but, as Carlos Rafael said, by adding water to it we have a law on land rehabilitation and water protection but not land protection.

Fidel said that it seemed to him that an effort should be made to take a complete law on land preservation and rehabilitation and water preservation to the assembly and it should be one law, not two. The one law would be more complete with all those elements and would be presented to the next session. It would be a complete law that covers everything, not just the objective of the bill under debate.

Joel Domenech spoke to explain that a mine law is being written which, in addition to what Raul correctly stated, includes how to protect the nonrenewable mineral wealth of our country.

He said that they were working on it to present it to the assembly in December, to see if it was possible to discuss it in December. He believed that it was appropriate to discuss this aspect of land protection and protection of the mineral wealth at the same time and find the way they complement each other.

Jose Ramirez Cruz spoke then and said that he felt the delay of this law under discussion was correct in order to make it more complete for all the reasons expressed. Also the National Park Law--on the Sierra Maestra--was recently approved. This meant that the Sierra Maestra plan has barely started. In fact, there are a number of limitations, a number of rules, that encourage many peasants to abandon the mountain because there are so many prohibitive things. They cannot sow, they cannot do some things they were doing and this stimulates an exodus. If we now approve another law without studying all its phenomena and there are more prohibitions, then we are going to encourage the exodus more. Therefore, he agreed to postpone the law, study all the factors that can influence it favorably or negatively and permit the additional 6 months to be used for political work with the masses on the need for this law. For all these reasons, he felt the delay was correct.

Roa explained at that time that there is a prior consideration, related to a proposal derived from the one made by the commander in chief, that he considered it most appropriate and fruitful to suspend the discussion of this item on the agenda so that a seasoned law could be taken to the assembly, technically elaborated and covering all aspects of water and land in general in our country as much as possible. He proposed a vote on the proposal and it was passed.



Raul asked then if it also included the forests because there is no water in the forests but there are people who see a tree and chop it down. He meant that at modern dairy farms, although cows like shade, they cut the trees down. He cited as an example the dairy farms in Biran which he knows; he was born there and goes there often. He said that he sometimes goes on horseback down from the Pinares de Mayari along the old Biran road which he went up as a boy. He said that from the borders of the forests sown in the Pinares by the revolution to Biran itself, there is only a thicket of wild lemon before reaching the dairies. A row of cedars that used to be all along the road were cut down by someone without any known reason. He added that if the road is taken from there north as he did with Guillermo and with Almeida on another occasion, not one tree can be seen in Biran or even in Guaro. He indicated that he did not know how those who cut cane in that area found shade and recalled that there was even a number of streams in the past that no longer exist. Therefore, he asked if the forests were included when speaking of land. He was answered affirmatively.

Raul finally asked if there were some committee for that work. Roa answered that there could be a temporary committee, devoted exclusively to that as the problem was solved. This concluded the morning work session yesterday.

#### Afternoon Session

At 1530 hours, the session resumed with the item on the agenda "Report on accounts of the Attorney General's Office for 1979." Luis Pavon Tamayo, deputy for Holguin, read it. The president of the assembly, Raul Roa, submitted this to a vote and it was approved.

Then deputy Luis Rodriguez Hernandez of Colon read the report on "Accounts of the provincial people's government assemblies and the special municipality Isle of Youth to the ANPP for 1979."

At the end of the reading, Humberto Perez, deputy for the municipality of Cabaiguán, expressed a concern that he had already indicated at the previous ANPP session. He said that it seemed to him that the report on accounts, which is one of the most important moments in the functioning of the people's government organs if it is done as it should be, "is losing prestige, in our opinion, because of the way it is done and its contents."

He added: "I believe that this was revealed yesterday when we heard the accounts of the activity of the Supreme People's Tribunal and, to some degree, in the report on accounts of the Attorney General's Office."

"I have no doubt that it is present in the report on accounts for the provincial and municipal people's government work."

Humberto Perez indicated that it seemed to him that the report on accounts cannot be seen as a simple fulfillment of a rite that we perform formally.



He said that the report on accounts of the tribunal presented yesterday referred to quantitative aspects and did not properly evaluate the qualitative aspects. He warned that the report on accounts of the people's government organs suffers from that same problem. There is a quantitative list without an evaluation.

He said that the report even has some numbers that, when heard, can have opposite meanings. He asked what it means if there are more proposals in one place than in others. Is the town where there are more proposals or less proposals working better?

After explaining some other examples about the interpretations derived from the quantitative aspects reflected in the report, Humberto Perez stated that "the bare numbers are not going to tell us if the results of the work are good or bad."

He stated: "It seems to us that it is necessary to keep in mind why the people's governments were created and what they should report on."

He stated that the report mentioned said only that there were so many meetings and so many people attended them, so many agreements were made, so many were fulfilled and so many were not fulfilled. The standing committees had more or less delegates. It is not mentioned whether they had non-delegates; that is, if they incorporated the masses, not just delegates.

Reiterating this point, he said that in the delegates' reports or in the report on accounts, something along this line occurs. There is no mention of the contents of work of the people's governments. He added that it is necessary to report also on organic functioning but it is not the basic objective of the people's governments.

He recalled that the people's governments were created as local organs of supreme state leadership in each territory and to exercise government over certain activities. He cited primary and intermediate education, public health, local transportation, retail and even wholesale commerce, construction of minor projects, sports, culture, recreation and supply as activities over which they directly exercise government. They are very important to the people.

He stated that the people's governments were created so that the resources of the country could be used more efficiently than by central state organizations.

"I believe that a report on accounts should mention how these resources are being handled to answer these problems. This is the essence of the people's governments. It should also mention what problems have arisen," Humberto Perez stated.

He also mentioned that the people's governments have responsibility for: territorial planning; writing, executing and supervising the provincial

and municipal budget; supervision of even national investments; distribution of meat products, not only for local activities but for all activities in the territory; distribution of labor resources; inspection of work; monetary circulation plan; and the so-called cash plan.

He said that the people's governments have a number of responsibilities which are their reason for being, the essence of their existence. The report on accounts of the people's governments once a year should be based on how they have functioned.

He emphasized: "There might be a very great difference between what happens in the report on accounts in the present form, which passes unnoticed at this meeting. It is very formally submitted to the consideration of the deputies and only a few opinions are given. The topics do not provide much to talk about and the debate is over in a few minutes."

Humberto Perez repeated that if the report on accounts referred to what it should refer to, in his opinion it would be necessary to devote a morning or a complete day of the assembly to present the important matters that concern the country.

He said that he was not referring to the mainly local problems which can be solved administratively but to problems that have general importance for the country.

He emphasized: "For this reason, we dare to propose, if what we are saying is considered correct, that the Local People's Government Organs Committee of the assembly, in coordination with the Office for Servicing Local People's Government Organs headed by Faustino Perez and with the participation of other national organizations that control the activities of the people's governments, find the form and aspects which should be included in this report on accounts and do it correctly next time."

He pointed out that the inventory of problems would be long but those that were more general, more significant, and could require decisions from the ANPP could be selected.

In conclusion, he proposed that there be a statement by the assembly that there be an adequate and duly oriented format for the next report on accounts with the participation of the organizations to which he referred. Then a report on accounts would cover the essential contents of the work of the provincial and municipal people's government organs.

Deputy Luis Rodriguez spoke to say that he agreed "in general" with Humberto Perez but he wanted to explain some aspects.

He said that the report on accounts of the provincial people's government assemblies is made by following a guide issued by the presidency of the ANPP on the basis of 14 reports that 13 provinces and the Isle of Youth sent. The committee could make an evaluation on the basis of this data.

He said: "The result must be this since it is based on the information we have."

He then noted that this same assembly had adopted an agreement that this committee be in charge of analyzing the internal functioning of the local people's government organs and that the Planning and Finance Committee be in charge of evaluating all the aspects related to the results of the work of people's government in economy and services. He added: "We have been fulfilling our part of the job."

Rodriguez added that Humberto Perez' statements should be evaluated to seek a practical solution to this problem.

He concluded: "I agree with Humberto Perez and would have to review this agreement of the ANPP and define the mechanism that we want to adopt for the next year."

The following also spoke in favor of Humberto Perez' statement: deputies Ruben Dario Fernandez (Niquero), Elvira Siso (Camaguey), Roberto Ogando (Isle of Youth), Enrique Avalo Bosch (Jobabo), Juana Fernandez Calvo (Havana) and Hector Rojas Bruzon (Puerto Padre).

Rojas Bruzon stated that if there is anything that is making the local assemblies lose quality, it is the responses that many organizations give to the electors "since they do not convince anyone."

He emphasized: "These answers are frequently sent by telegram."

He said also that it is necessary to take "explicit explanations of the problems" to the local groups when there are no solutions.

Finally Raul Roa spoke: "It is obvious that we see increasing support for comrade Humberto Perez' thesis." He added immediately that "the speakers one after another have indicated that direction."

He said: "We understand that no work or activity of the ANPP should have a formalistic or merely functional nature except those things that are by nature functional or formal."

"In questions of work, of concrete activities like this where we are analyzing the problem of reporting to the assembly, it seems to me that the opposite of the formal or merely functional should prevail."

He then stated that the organic and substantial should prevail and "that is obviously the responsibility of the assembly alone."

Roa said that he wanted to confirm that deputy Humberto Perez indicated the need to abandon the formalistic method at the previous assembly.

He also indicated that until now 'the results of the actions of people's government do not appear in the report on accounts "but merely a description." He insisted that interest in the report on accounts should not be concentrated on merely descriptive matters but on substantial, essential matters "which basically affect the nature of the people's government."

He emphasized: "That has not been done and should be."

The president of the assembly stated that, as far as he could see, everyone agreed that that is the road to take. "I think it would be good to end the discussion now since the topic has been sufficiently discussed through the acceptance of comrade Humberto Perez' proposal, adding Luis Rodriguez'. Let us continue forward."

Roa concluded: "I propose that we accept the proposal Humberto Perez has made and that all the concerns mentioned here in this room be included."

The deputies approved this statement.

The afternoon session resumed at 1756 hours after a recess. Roa submitted the report of accounts of the provincial people's government assemblies and the special municipality Isle of Youth for 1979 to a vote. They were unanimously approved.

Then the ANPP ratified decree laws and agreements of the Council of State and approved changes in the membership of some standing committees which Jose Aranaburo announced.

In these approved changes, deputy Alfredo Guevara, member of the Arts and Culture Committee, was proposed to fill the vacancy of vice president of the mentioned committee due to the death of deputy Alejo Carpentier Valmont.

Deputy Marta Lagioyo, present secretary of the Constitutional and Judicial Affairs Committee, was proposed for president of that committee to replace deputy Armando Torres Santrayll who has been assigned responsibilities abroad. Deputy Antonio Rodriguez Maurell was nominated to fill the vacant position of secretary.

Deputy Wilfredo Espinosa Calero, present secretary of the Planning, Finance and Budget Committee, was nominated for president of the Internal Order Committee to replace deputy Raul Rodriguez Lopez who has been appointed first secretary of the party in Villa Clara Province.

Deputy Rogelio A. Castillo Espinosa, member of the Industry Committee, was nominated to fill the vacancy of secretary of the Planning, Finance and Budget Committee and deputy Charles W. Collymore Francis was proposed to fill the vacant position as member of this committee.



Then the deputies approved the report read by deputy Mercedes de la Cruz Romero (San Miguel del Padron) on supervision of the ANPP agreement on attention to citizens' grievances and suggestions.

In its conclusions, the Grievances and Suggestions Committee stated that this task has taken a qualitative leap and pointed out the work done by Sancti Spiritus Province.

The report warned that, in spite of these advances, it is obvious that there are still deficiencies that must be overcome.

Later Raul Roa reported that the agenda had been covered and said that the chair of the ANPP once more would recognize Commander in Chief Fidel Castro who was greeted with a loud ovation.

At 1825 hours, Fidel began his speech.

#### ANPP, U.S. Congress Compared

Havana GRANMA in Spanish 4 Jul 80 p 4

[Article by Jose A. Benitez: "National People's Government Assembly and Socialist Democracy"]

[Text] Anyone who wants to verify the shameful connections between U.S. senators and representatives and large enterprises and multinational monopolies, the influence spurious economic interests exercise in Congress, the insensitivity to national miseries and the nature and essence of imperialism can examine the acts and documents of the U.S. Congress.

Anyone who wants to verify the close relationship between the Cuban deputies and the laborers, peasants and intellectuals, the concern for the well-being and security of the people, the efforts to place the country in the current of development and progress and the nature and essence of socialism can examine the acts and documents of the ANPP.

Recently, a meeting of the U.S. Senate and the first session of the 1980 ANPP coincided.

While in Washington the senators approved an allocation of \$91 million for the study of a new strategic bomber designed to destroy land and human life, the deputies in Havana discussed a bill for "land rehabilitation and inland water preservation," resources that have great value for man.

While the U.S. Congress approved a budget of \$154 billion for its arms race, with all the fatal consequences that the casualty of war implies, the Internal Order Committee of the ANPP worked hard on a new Traffic Code to prevent accidents and decrease their fatal consequences. In both cases, human life is involved.



The activities of the U.S. Congress show the degree of irresponsibility, shamelessness and "hidden crime" of representatives and senators.

The activities of the ANPP these days have shown the responsibility of the deputies and how much determination, good judgment, honesty, reputable opinion and generous and sensible heart meet for a brief period in our country.

In the U.S. Congress, laws are actually discussed in whispers in the corridors of the Capitol between representatives and senators and the lobbyists of the National Manufacturers Association, Texas Gulf Sulphur Co., the World Bank, Lockheed Aircraft Corporation, Standard Oil or Xerox Corporation. This is bourgeois democracy.

In the ANPP the deputies openly ask to speak, discuss, reaffirm, argue and propose out loud, spontaneously, with honesty and pride. This is socialist democracy.

The activities of the ANPP have increased and expanded since its constitution on 2 December 1976. Once more they insure that society is not a body in repose but a dynamic organization like an electron.

The deputies come to the ANPP as if to a waiting room for a great task, to fulfill a duty, assume a responsibility with the present and contract a commitment with the future. They have the confidence of the workers and our party, concerning the results of the work that they undertake and the objectives and tasks outlined.

The historic moment that we live in has individual and collective tasks--in economic efficiency, work productivity, organization, savings of materials and human resources, technical and professional advancement of administrators and demand--and has its stars.

The deputies to the ANPP are among the stars.

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## HURRICANE ALLEN PRECAUTIONS, EFFECTS REPORTED

## 110,000 Persons Evacuated

PA061649 Paris AFP in Spanish 1635 GMT 6 Aug 80

[Text] Havana, 6 Aug (AFP)--More than 110,000 persons have been evacuated from the five eastern Cuban provinces in view of the threat posed by Hurricane Allen, the National General Staff [Civil Defense] reported today.

## Three Deaths So Far

FI071443 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1400 GMT 7 Aug 80

[Excerpts] In its special bulletin no. 22, the Metrology Institute has informed that Hurricane Allen is affecting the Isle of Youth and that it will affect the westernmost part of Pinar del Rio Province early this morning.

The Civil Defense general staff reported that up to early evening yesterday, three hurricane deaths had been reported in the country. (Luis Jander) Rodriguez, 30, of Mella Municipality in Santiago de Cuba, died when the television antenna he was securing made contact with a high power wire. Faustino Herrera, 36, also died by electrocution when power lines fell at Ramon Ponciano Sugar Mill in Sancti Spiritus. In Chaparra, Tunas Province, 14-year-old Pablo Cruz Reyes died electrocuted. Some 18,700 persons have been evacuated in Pinar del Rio because of Hurricane Allen's passage through that western province. The Civil Defense also reported that more than 46,000 heads of cattle were moved to safe places.

It has been reported from Las Tunas Province that Hurricane Allen caused very little damage thanks to the measures adopted and the support of the political and mass organizations. Las Tunas Province is now in a stage of recuperation with the return home of those evacuated in the northern municipalities, the reestablishment of power and the normalization of services.

## BRIEFS

**CUBAN-BULGARIAN YOUTH SOLIDARITY**--Luis Orlando Dominguez, first secretary of the Cuban Young Communists Union, has visited the (Madar) Cargo Railcar Manufacturing Plant in the Bulgarian district of Shumen. During the second day of his visit Dominguez, who also is member of the Cuban Party Central Committee, participated in a Cuban-Bulgarian Friendship ceremony accompanied by Georgi Tanev, first secretary of the Dimitrov Communist Youth Union. The activity to reaffirm friendship between the youths of the two countries was held at the Railcar Plant where 90 Cuban youths have been taking a training course for the past 18 months. (Aleksandur Dobrev), first secretary of the Communist Youth Union in Shumen, reaffirmed the traditional friendship between the youth and people of Cuba and Bulgaria. [FLO61504 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1405 GMT 6 Aug 80]

**DOCKWORKERS' EFFORTS**--PCC secretariat member Jorge Risquet has called a feat the dockworkers' effort of unloading almost 1.5 tons of merchandize in June and July. Risquet made the closing remarks at the second quarterly evaluation meeting of the "red hot" port emulation, he said that despite the progress made, some prevailing deficiencies must be overcome. In this connection, he referred to the need for unloading 700,000 tons of cargo as an average and raising workday productivity to 80 percent. He also said that the payment of per diem for delays in unloading must be eliminated. During the meeting it was announced that nine national records had been set in the period examined and 2,112 outstanding projects completed. On behalf of the Cuban dockworkers, the union presented to the Soviet Maritime Agency certificates for the crews of several outstanding ships. Soviet crewmembers and Cuban dockworkers have even worked volunteer hours on Sundays to help relieve port congestion. [Text] [FLO62358 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 2100 GMT 6 Aug 80]

**SCHOLARSHIPS FOR CARIBBEAN NATIONS**--Cuba has granted 62 university scholarships to youths of Grenada, St Lucia, Dominica, Antigua and St Vincent beginning in September. The scholarship program for these eastern Caribbean countries includes room, board, books and other expenses as well as a Spanish language course. Scholarships were granted to 40 youths from Grenada, 12 from St Lucia, 6 from Dominica, 2 from Antigua and 2 from St Vincent. [FLO61011 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1000 GMT 6 Aug 80 Fl.]

SWEDISH PARTY OFFICIAL.--Isidoro Malmierca, member of the Party Central Committee and minister of foreign relations, has received (Pierre Schori), secretary for foreign relations of the Swedish Social Democratic Party. They discussed topics of interest and the international situation. The meeting took place in a friendly atmosphere. [Text] [FLO71452 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1400 GMT 7 Aug 80]

CSO: 3010

## DEPUTIES' PROPOSED CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENTS DISMAY GUZMAN

### Proposed Amendments Summarized

Santo Domingo EL CARIBE in Spanish 10 Apr 80 p 6

[Article by Minerva Isa]

[Excerpt] New amendments to the National Constitution were proposed yesterday in the Chamber of Deputies. They included an extension of the current government term to 6 years and a ban on the vice president of the republic succeeding the president or running as a candidate for that office.

Motions to this effect were submitted during a debate, in a general committee, of the bill calling for a constituent assembly to amend various constitutional articles and to establish a ban on presidential reelection.

Other proposed amendments advocate declaring former presidents of the republic senators for life, extension of parliamentary immunity to include legislators, allowing voter groups not affiliated with political parties to sponsor candidates in the general elections, elimination of the office of vice president of the republic, and establishment of compulsory military service.

Still other proposed amendments advocate giving the Chamber of Deputies the same prerogatives as the Senate, including authorization to appoint judges, and allowing the National Congress to appoint the attorney general of the republic.

### Any Change Considered Premature

Santo Domingo EL CARIBE in Spanish 10 Apr 80 p 1

[Article by Jose B. Raes Guerrero]

[Excerpt] President Antonio Guzman expressed his opinion yesterday that any change in the constitution would be "premature" since "it would be basically aimed at a ban on reelection."



The chief of state said that "it is good that they are starting now, but I believe that it is premature at this time, since constitutional reform is basically aimed at a ban on reelection."

"I believe that we need to work and to achieve things in the country before thinking about that," the president added in an interview during the opening of a sewage treatment plant in Los Tres Brazos in the western part of this city.

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PAZ GARCIA'S APPOINTMENT STEP TOWARD DEMOCRACY

PA291705 Tegucigalpa Domestic Service in Spanish 1130 GMT 29 Jul 80

[Station Commentary]

[Excerpts] Honduras has just taken another big step toward the final consolidation of the democratic process with the resolutions that the constituent assembly issued appointing the president of the republic and the supreme court justices to a temporary term.

If Policarpo Paz Garcia is to successfully lead the government as is expected, we must trust that he will make a wise decision in the selection of his closest associates in the executive branch and the decentralized agencies.

The constituent assembly as well as the media have stated that General Paz Garcia was chosen as provisional president in recognition of the exemplary way he guaranteed the freedom to vote culminating in the 20 April elections. Consequently, it is expected that he will show a similar attitude concerning the next elections to choose the top authorities.

The main goal for the upcoming elections and the tasks for our progress should be to remain willing to have a calm situation and a civilized dialogue and to reject impertinence and intolerance which only lead to disunity and dissent.

Regarding a basic government plan, it must be believed that all the goals are contemplated in the current national development plan. The plan should be continued under the new provisional government which should coordinate it and present it to the ministries and the autonomous and semiautonomous entities in the proper order.

We should view this transition period with optimism. All Hondurans are committed so that it will have a happy ending. Liberty and order are not the exclusive duties of the president and the parties which make up the constituent assembly. They are rights which must be calmly exercised so that they can bring about peace, stability and development. The Honduran people must continue to demonstrate their intelligence in order to preserve the fatherland in the face of the unrest which is an everyday thing in other neighboring countries in Central America.

FENACH ASKS PARTIES, ARMED FORCES FOR RESPONSIVE GOVERNMENT

PA312248 San Pedro SULA TIEMPO in Spanish 22 Jul 80 p 15

[Advertisement: Statement by the 29th National Convention of the National Federation of Farmers and Cattlemen of Honduras dated 12 July]

[Text] At its 29th regular meeting held in Tegucigalpa 11-13 July, the National Federation of Farmers and Cattlemen of Honduras (FENACH), after analyzing the country's political, economic and social problems, aware of its responsibility at this historical moment and taking into account the patriotic feelings and responsibility of the citizens, urges the political parties and the armed forces to take advantage of the present situation and establish the bases for a stable, honest and respectable government that can guide and create a climate that will guarantee increasing, permanent and just economic and social development.

FENACH trusts that the necessary conditions for development will be established and maintained. These conditions include:

- Political stability.
- Social peace.
- Public security.
- A competent and efficient public administration.
- An increasing local market and secure foreign markets.
- Correct and expeditious administration of justice.
- A political and social climate that permits the formation of a collective awareness for common tasks and the establishment of common development goals.
- An adequate fiscal policy.
- An educational system that, in addition to providing a general education, would prepare students for work.

—Constant and increasing efforts to improve health, sanitary and housing conditions.

FENAGH expects that the new political constitution will consolidate a regime with a democratic structure in which:

—The economic activity will be basically run by the private sectors because they are directly in charge of the creation of wealth.

—The state, in the economic field, will watch over the public interest and coordinate, guide, boost, and create the right conditions for the activities of the private sector. It will directly participate in the economic activities only in a complementary manner or through basic services that the private sector cannot supply.

—Private property for the production and distribution of the wealth will be maintained as the basis of a free enterprise system with a social responsibility.

FENAGH demands that the administration of the public agricultural sector be strengthened and consolidated so that:

—A comprehensive and coherent outlook of the agricultural development can be obtained.

—Production plans to guarantee the supply of staples for the people can be maintained and permit an increase in exports.

—A land agrarian reform to benefit the peasants, modernize agriculture and the cattle activity and foment private investments for the farming sector can be implemented.

—Research and expansion programs aimed at development and the application of technology in line with our situation and the energy crisis can be implemented.

—Supplies can be guaranteed in quantity, quality and in due time.

—Credit mechanisms can be expedited and increased.

—A greater storage and conservation capacity for farm products can be given and marketing systems can be improved.

—The road plan include the construction of feeder roads to production sites.

FENAGH recalls that the social and economic development of Honduras is based on the farming and cattle production and must be supported by the creation of agro-industries that permit a better use of this production and the creation of more jobs.

FENACH reiterates its decision and will to contribute to the country's development by making efforts to increase production and productivity in the agricultural sector and by participating with the government and other sectors in the search for better solutions to our problems to support democracy, justice and peace.

CS01 3010



NEWSPAPER DESCRIBES CASTRO'S VISIT WITH CHRISTIANS

PA311848 Managua EL NEUVO DIARIO in Spanish 25 Jul 80 pp 1, 10

[Article by Luis Serra]

[Text] Fidel entered the interior ministry walking slowly and looking tired. There, a group of Christians from various churches who support the revolution were waiting for him.

As he entered, he talked to those present as to old friends. "Have you been waiting long? I am sorry. I have come from a lengthy meeting. I have not stopped for several days. Imagine, we have visited almost the entire country in 3 days, on the go, 15 hours every day." Fidel ignored a platform with a beautiful table and chairs and microphones and sat on the border of the platform. On his sides were Commanders Bayardo Arce and Daniel and Humberto Ortega as well as Father d'Escoto.

For those who had never talked with Fidel, the myth of an untouchable Fidel fell to pieces to reveal Fidel the friend, the humble man who is calm and has a good sense of humor. The myth about Fidel talking endlessly also crumbled and they saw a man whose greatest skill in the art of conversing is his ability to listen and to ask questions. Finally, another myth was totally destroyed: that of an anti-Christian Fidel who would relentlessly persecute religion. This subject was the main objective of the enriching conversation that went on for more than an hour.

Inevitably, the question about religious tolerance in Cuba was raised. Commander Fidel stated: "We had problems with some priests who opposed the agrarian and educational reform that the revolution was implementing. You should realize that in Cuba religion was practiced differently than it was practiced in the rest of Latin America. The Catholic religion was practiced only by the wealthy since there was no one church in the country side. The priests, most of them foreigners, were allies of the bourgeoisie and disregarded the people.

When these problems arose, we had to ask many foreign priests to leave the country. However, we were always very careful in our relations with the church, not only because of the respect due to religious beliefs—which we

consider to be a sacred right of each individual—but also because we did not want our revolution to be seen in Latin America as an anti-religious revolution because this would reduce the chances of the Latin American people, who are profoundly religious, joining an anti-imperialist revolutionary process."

Fidel noted the great differences between the Christian concepts and practices of the decade of the fifties and those of today, after the Vatican II Council and the Episcopal Conference of Medellin and Puebla. In those years there were few priests who were not rabidly anticommunist, but, Fidel said, "we were very kind with those priests who were involved in counterrevolutionary activities. None of them were executed and none were sentenced to long prison terms as it has happened in many other revolutions. Later our relations improved thanks to the good offices of the Apostolic Nuncio. Later we initiated a period of clear cooperation with the churches. There is freedom of cult in Cuba. We even give material aid for the construction of churches, but we are not going to claim we are a model in our relations with the churches. You, in Nicaragua and in countries like El Salvador, are teaching us about the possibility of a profound humanist alliance between Christians and Marxists."

With the same humility that he demonstrated on 19 July, Fidel admitted that he came to Nicaragua to learn and not go give advice or sell prescriptions. One of the most original characteristics of this Sandinist revolution is the confluence of Christians and Marxists in the trenches as well as in the national reconstruction. It is a tangible and unique reality that is prompting a review of old schemes and a reconsideration of the relations between Marxism and Christianity.

Regarding this, Fidel said that he feels that there are profound coincidences between the two and that their differences are very small... "Even though I must admit that we are a little bit doctrinaire in our country...but you also have your doctrine." Further on, Compañero Fidel said that "it is time for Marxists and Christians to learn mutually, because the world is confronting serious dangers, the possibility of a world war, a famine and an ecological destruction which indicate that we must unite ourselves in our projects to attain a more just and cooperative world and to avoid taking separate stances in discussions about the other world."

One of the questions from the audience was about the famous "strategic alliance between Christians and Marxists" which Fidel proposed in Chile in 1971 (see, Fidel Castro and the Revolutionary Christians, Pamphlet, IHC, Managua). The commander said that he was referring to a permanent and close alliance which both must defend in the face of a common enemy: imperialism. The stand of most Christians who were present was somewhat different from that of Fidel. Somebody said: "To those who are Christians and Marxists, we should no longer talk of an alliance but a fusion. In order to be a true Christian, I believe that one must be a Marxist and vice versa. The differences are minimum, we are both struggling to build a solidary, altruistic, fraternal, austere and free man." Several months ago, Commander Luis Carrero said in this regard that "the Christians should be fully identified with the revolution and not feel as an added or collateral force."

this stand which shows how the Nicaraguan revolutionary process overcomes the theoretical approaches of the past, resulted in a valuable reply from Fidel: "Maybe the perfect communist that we want to form, that militant man dedicated and devoted to others, must be a Marxist and a Christian. The new man that we intend to form in Cuba is in fact like those thousands of comrades who are teaching or curing people in remote places in Africa, Asia and here in Nicaragua. It means that these men are like missionaries, devoted to their fellow men just like many priests and nuns that we know..."

We talked with Fidel just like that with the simple and warm language of an old friend. This is the compañero who has helped us so much in our revolution, the comrade who is such a greater revolutionary because of his ability to listen, learn, criticize himself and destroy the myths that the reactionaries create around him. In sum, he is a great revolutionary because of his endless desire to improve the lives of the oppressed of this earth without falling into vain theoretical discussions on Marxism and Christianity.

CSG: 3010

EVALUATE INFO EVALUATE, VOICE SUPPORT FOR REVOLUTION

FA051807 Managua Radio Sandino in Spanish 0300 GMT 5 Aug 80

[Excerpt] Following a 4-day meeting at Monte de los Olivos during which they prayed, meditated and studied our country's true situation, 200 pastors, women and young members of the evangelist church decided to pronounce their firm support for the popular Sandinist revolution.

In their final statement they recognize the proper and wise way both the Junta of the government of national reconstruction and the national leadership of the Sandinist National Liberation Front have conducted government affairs.

We consider that the deep changes which have occurred in Nicaragua during the first year and the results of these changes are proof of the degree of sacrifice, commitment and abnegation of the people and the government, state the evangelist pastors.

In view of the enormous magnitude of national reconstruction tasks and the fact that material and ethical problems often limit revolutionary development, they add: We believe, however, that the nation's reconstruction is only possible to the extent to which we are able to turn sin, poverty, unemployment, disease and sectarianism into honesty, sovereignty, education, economic independence, health, fraternity and social equality.

The evangelist pastors then go on to stress their commitment with workers, peasants, the poor and the alienated and add: As Christians, we seek to follow the example of Jesus Christ who, although a poor man, dedicated himself to the struggle of the oppressed and the exploited of his time, thus opening the door to their liberation, peace and social equality.

With great hope, we join in the construction of a new society that is just and in which peace, fraternity and social progress are sought.

CSO: 3010

## NICARAGUA

### ENVOY TO COSTA RICA SAYS RELATIONS GOOD

PA111701 San Jose Radio Neloj in Spanish 1730 GMT 30 Jul 80

[Text] In a news conference held a few minutes ago to discuss current Costa Rican-Nicaraguan relations, and the 19 July events, Nicaraguan Ambassador Javier Chamorro said that these relations are at their best level. He noted that Nicaragua has not turned itself over to communism and added that a Nicaraguan trade office will be installed in Costa Rica.

Chamorro described the political, trade and cultural ties as being at their best level noting that they keep improving as the days go by.

He announced that a Nicaraguan trade office will be opened in Costa Rica to promote the development of trade between the two countries especially regarding the exchange of products. According to the ambassador, Costa Rica is his country's main supplier.

He also announced that a delegation of representatives of the Nicaraguan junta will visit Costa Rica on 11 August at the invitation of our ambassador to Nicaragua.

This visit, the ambassador said, shows that our relations are not cooling.

We emphatically deny that the revolution has betrayed its principles and has turned itself over to international communism, Chamorro said. He was referring to the celebrations of the first anniversary of the revolution which prompted attacks against and criticism of the Sandinians.

He deplored that President Carazo, Aristides Royo, Omar Torrijos and Luis Herrera Campins did not attend the ceremonies.

He noted that extreme rightist and counterrevolutionary groups are carrying out a campaign to discredit this country.

He cited the number of persons killed in the first year of the revolution.



TWO SEEKING ASYLUM CALLED 'COUNTERREVOLUTIONARIES'

PA262044 Managua Radio Sandino in Spanish 0300 GMT 26 Jul 80

[Text] Deputy Foreign Minister Jacinto Suarez this morning reported that the two individuals who sought asylum at the Costa Rican Embassy in our country are members of counterrevolutionary gangs. He added that the Costa Rican Embassy already sent a note to the foreign ministry regarding the presence of these two individuals there. The two men who sought asylum at the Costa Rican Embassy on Tuesday are Henry Rodriguez Cerda of Esteli and Gonzalo Oneguera of Matagalpa.

Eduardo Mora Querada, the Costa Rican consul general, said that they entered the embassy as political refugees. He said that his government is studying the case and for this reason it has not granted them a definite asylum.

Regarding other matters and the attacks against diplomatic missions in Honduras, the foreign minister said that an official protest has been lodged but the missions will not be withdrawn because that is what the counterrevolution wants.

[Begin Suarez recording] The Costa Rican Embassy already notified us about that. We received their note yesterday. We will announce the content of the note [words indistinct].

[Question indistinct]

[Answer] According to our reports, they are members of counterrevolutionary gangs. This is the only report that we have so far. I do not know the exact information on [words indistinct] or the reasons that they had to seek refuge at the Costa Rican Embassy. All I can tell you is that they are members of counterrevolutionary gangs. [end recording]

CSO: 3010

PRO-GOVERNMENT PARTIES FORM PATRIOTIC REVOLUTIONARY FRONT

PA100127 Havana International Service in Spanish 2310 GMT 30 Jul 80

[Our America Commentary]

[Text] Placing the interests of the people, revolution and nation before any other party interest, four Nicaraguan political organizations, headed by the Sandinist National Liberation Front (FSLN) have officially created the Patriotic Revolutionary Front.

A few days after the brilliant celebration of the first anniversary of the revolutionary triumph over the pro-imperialist tyranny of General Anastasio Somoza, the creation ceremony was held in Managua and the platform of the new political organization made up of the FSLN, the Nicaraguan Socialist Party, the Social Christian Party and the Independent Liberal Party, was released to the press.

The Patriotic Front, the party's platform says, has been created with two basic purposes and objectives: To support the democratic policy implemented by the government of national reconstruction as well as the defense, consolidation and advance of the revolutionary process so as to insure the implementation of the socioeconomic changes which the country needs.

The document also says that the new organization will strive for the rights of man to employment, housing, education, health, a respectable life and social progress. The Patriotic Front, the program adds, recognizes the vanguard role played by the FSLN in the revolution, the existence of political pluralism and supports the strengthening of the army, police, security corps and militia as institutions of the revolutionary state for the defense of the fatherland and freedom against attacks by foreign and domestic enemies.

In the economic field the Patriotic Front has adopted as its own the emergency and reactivation plan implemented by the government junta, and believes that basic or essential production means should be controlled by the state which will promote a mixed economy and encourage the private sector to fulfill its social function.

In the economic field, the Patriotic Front also supports the creation of a development plan for the national economy which will include a tax policy and a sustained agricultural advance parallel to an integral agrarian democratic, antioligarchic and a anti-imperialist reform.

It will also strive to promote the rescue and nationalization of national treasures as well as economic relations with all countries in the world, based on mutual respect.

The recently created Patriotic Front also striven to bring about far reaching changes in education, health and housing and the establishment of a labor policy to protect the right to free association and at the same time offer full, healthy, useful and equitably paid occupation.

The creation of the Patriotic Front is an important step of institutional life in Nicaragua and the political organizations which compose it, headed by the FSLN, are acting according to the rules of history and according to aspirations and needs of the people, revolution and the fatherland of Augusto Cesar Sandino.

CSO: 3010

COMMUNIQUE RELEASED ON QUILALI ATTACK

PA251643 Managua Radio Sandino in Spanish 0300 (GMT 25 Jul 80

[Joint communique issued by the Nicaraguan Interior and Defense Ministries in Managua 24 July--read by announcer]

[Text] The defense and interior ministries hereby report that on the evening of 22 July a band of about 20 individuals came to Quilali and killed Compañero Jose Leon Cornejo Salgado, an old aide of the Sandinist National Liberation Front. Shortly after 0600 on 23 July the same group attacked the police station, killing officer Justo Pastor Ibarra and a civilian who was under arrest.

Afterwards the band ambushed a van of the agrarian reform institute, killing Juana Cruz Centeno, 18, who was from Leon and belonged to a peoples literacy army health brigade. The crime took place 3 km from Quilali on the road to Ocotal. Two civilians were also hurt.

An armed forces patrol pursuing the band was ambushed, and Adolfo Cruz Montenegro was killed and Ayax Gonzalez Valvidia was wounded. The same band attacked a small bus and robbed two civilians of their money.

In view of these incidents, which have had the tragic result of three deaths, including a young girl who had generously devoted herself to improving the health of our people, and five wounded, two of them in serious condition, the armed forces have undertaken an operation to neutralize the band with the firm promise to be implacable in combat and implacable in victory in the face of any enemy of the people who attacks the Sandinist people's revolution.

CSO: 3010

**SANDINIST SOLDIERS ARRESTED FOR NOT FIGHTING**

PA790154 Panama City Televisora Nacional in Spanish 2315 GMT 28 Jul 80

[text] Sixteen soldiers of the Sandinist army have been arrested for refusing to fight the counterrevolutionary bands operating in northern Nicaragua. These bands have increased their attacks in the past few days.

According to the opposition news, after LA PRENSA, one of the arrested soldiers is Commander Candelario Ubeda, chief of the Quilali garrison, in north Managua.

The garrison was attacked last week by a group of counterrevolutionaries. As a result of this attack three persons died and five were wounded. The leader of the attackers has been identified as Pedro Gonzalez, who was a member of the guerrilla army that overthrew Somoza.

It has been reported that more than 1,000 soldiers, including members of the recently organized people's militia, have been sent to the north region to check the counterrevolutionary efforts. This region has an approximately 200 km border with Honduras.

CNO: 3010



## NICARAGUA

### BRIEFS

CUBAN PHYSICIANS REPORT PRODUCTIVITY--The brigades of Cuban internationalist physicians have reported lending their services to one million Nicaraguan patients on the eve of the first anniversary of the arrival of the first group of physicians to that fraternal Central American nation. During a ceremony held in Managua, Cuba's Vice Minister of Public Health Dr Jorge Alderagua delivered a certificate to Nicaragua's Health Minister Dr Cesar Amador Khul containing a report on such efforts of the Cuban physicians. The ceremony coincides with commander in chief Fidel Castro's visit to Nicaragua. [Text] [FL241134 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1100 GMT 24 Jul 80]

CSO: 3010

NORBERTO SILVERA RELATES TORTURE BY SANDINISTS

PA301759 Panama City MATUTINO in Spanish 29 Jul 80 pp 1-A, 8-A

[Article by Roberto R. Rodriguez]

[Text] Norberto Silvera, a 28-year-old Panamanian from the City of David and former member of the Victoriano Lorenzo brigade has characterized the tortures to which he was subjected by members of the Sandinist National Liberation Army of Nicaragua as serious, inhuman and not in line with the ideal of the struggle against the Somoza dictatorship.

Silvera, who had joined the brigade in May 1979, said that Dante's inferno is nothing compared to the tortures he suffered. Silvera participated in the Nicaraguan struggle with the Non de Guerre of Beto. He was a paramedic in Liberia where he received military training for 4 days. He worked in a rehabilitation hospital for wounded fighters who later would rejoin the struggle.

Beto said that after the victory they marched to Penas Blancas where they opened a clinic. From there they went to Virgen, Sapoa and Rivas where they opened the Laviana Garcia Hospital. From there they went to Managua where he enlisted in the army and was assigned to the German Pomares Base.

Silvera began his narration of the tortures he had suffered, since the time of his arrest on 15 December on charges of being a member of Brazil's intelligence service, by stating: "I unselfishly went to help the people of Nicaragua so that they would no longer be repressed by the Somoza dictatorship. I risked my life going to Esteli where I secured medicine to cure the wounded. Before I was arrested I was assigned to the Interior Ministry and given a job in the Modelo de Tipitapa Prison. The warden of this prison was Felipe Arguello who was always asking me vague and ill-intentioned questions."

The former guerrilla paramedic added: "I was first tortured when I was in a cell where I had to work without food for 3 days. Later came a man by the name of Federico Lopez who questioned me and hit me several times with a .45-caliber pistol, including one blow on the head that produced a cut."

As a result of this, Silveira stated, he was confused because nothing he said was taken into account, although he presented identification papers showing that he was Panamanian and a member of the Victoriano Lorenzo brigade, and because his torturers' only response was to say that his papers were phony. Silveira added: "A psychological blow was inflicted when they sent me to the cell of the Somoziat guards who had been in the [Somoziat] National Security Office (O.S.N.) so that I would have to face them. Of course they shouted at me and harassed me."

The harassment by the Somoziat guards in the cells of the O.S.N., and of the cadre of the Instituto de la Infancia Infantry training school (cehi) consisted of reminding him that it was thanks to the Panamanians that the government of Somoza had fallen.

"One of the tortures applied to me was that of leaving me without food or water. As a result of this I contracted rickets. I had been enduring this treatment for 6 weeks when a member of Cuban security came to question me. I identified him as a Cuban because of his accent, which is characteristic and does not go away. I did not tell him anything because I had nothing to say to him," Silveira added.

"Two hours later I was taken from my cell and they used pentothal to anesthetize me, but not completely, because the purpose was to ask me questions so that I would give them answers subconsciously. I struggled to keep them from injecting me with it but I did not succeed. When they noticed that I was resisting the anesthesia because of nervousness, they grabbed a needle called benecut, which is 5 inches long, and they introduced it into my penis and applied electricity to it, giving me electric shocks. I suffered the most terrible pain in my life. I fainted. They gave me no food. I never thought that those who fought against this type of action with me would do something like this.

"I have a scar from an operation on my thorax. That scar was peeled off with a knife [sancho]. There were always the same questions about whom I represented when I infiltrated the Sandinist army as an intelligence agent.

"I requested that they call Panamanian Ambassador Baltazar Alzpurua but they did not comply because they insisted that I was Brazilian and not Panamanian.

"Finally they applied the following torture to me: One of them wrapped his middle finger with gauze and introduced it into my anus to rub my prostate gland."

Silveira said that the tortures diminished in February because the prison warden was changed. "I became seriously ill in June and they took me to a hospital. It was from there that I asked a hospital employee to call the Panamanian Embassy and she did this despite the opposition of those guarding me. I spoke with Carlos de Diego who identified me as a Panamanian because I was able to tell him the most common words in Chiriqui and in our country.

He asked me what the most traditional word of the people from Chiriqui was and I told him 'meto.' He then asked what the most vulgar Panamanian expression was and I told him 'ch...au...m...'. This is how he became convinced I was Panamanian and he was able to obtain my release in 2 days. On 2 July I was free.

"Later the Panamanian ambassador who interceded to free me, took me to his home. Rene Vivas and Tomas Borge went there to see me upon the request of Ambassador Alzpurua to apologize. But I do not accept those apologies after all they did to me and after I fought for the Sandinist victory. Rodriguez, I told both of them were they could go.

"The only thing I ask of the Nicaraguan Government is not to send Federico Lopez Arguello to Panama."

Silveira worked as an anesthetist in the Regional Hospital of David before joining the guerrillas. He arrived in Panama on 25 July. He took advantage of the opportunity to thank the Panamanian ambassador in Nicaragua and Carlos de Diego for what they did for him. He also criticized the attitude adopted by the first secretary of the Panamanian Embassy, a man called Santiago Sanchez.

CSO: 3010

## PARAGUAY

### BRIEFS

FRENCH DELEGATION--A French delegation headed by former French Economy Minister Jacques Soustelle which arrived in Asuncion today was met by Industry and Commerce Minister Delfin Ugarte Centurion and the French ambassador to Paraguay. Soustelle stated that the delegation wishes to promote technical and economic cooperation between the two nations. Among the subjects to be discussed with Paraguayan authorities is that of technical and financial cooperation for the construction of a cement plant as well as a plan to modernize the railway system. The delegation which is comprised of Michel Pradin, chief of the French Economy Ministry cabinet, Henri Bourachot, public relations secretary and businessmen will meet with government officials and members of the private sector. [PY241242 Asuncion HOY in Spanish 20 Jul 80 p 8]

NEW PDC PRESIDENT--The Christian Democratic Party renewed its executive board at its last convention, electing Luis Alfonso Resck as president; Romulfo Perina as first vice president; Nelly Laconich as second vice president; and Hermogenes Rojas Silva, Laureano Pelayo Garcia, Alejandro Ladalaro, Olga Caballero, Efigenio Fernandez, Venancio Ariste, Federico Riveros and Alfredo Rojas as members. [PY242102 Asuncion ABC COLOR in Spanish 22 Jun 80 p 13]

ARGENTINE AMBASSADOR--Gen Carlos Enrique Laidlaw, new Argentine ambassador to Paraguay, this morning presented his credentials to President Stroessner at Government House. [PY241242 Asuncion ULTIMA HORA in Spanish 22 Jul 80 p 8]

COSTA RICAN AMBASSADOR--Fernando Acosta Sandoval, new Costa Rican ambassador to Paraguay, today presented his credentials to President Stroessner at Government House. [PY241242 Asuncion PATRIA in Spanish 16 Jul 80 p 6]

CSO: 3100



## BRIEFS

UN COMMITTEE PROBES SURINAME--Geneva, July 18--Human rights experts have complained that Surinam's new military-backed government is stalling indefinitely over holding general elections, the United Nations reported today. Focusing on the South American country for the first time since a coup there last February 25, members of the U.N. Human Rights Committee said they felt government conditions for holding a nationwide poll are impossible to satisfy. These were that the government must be absolutely convinced no danger remained of a reversion to the pre-coup situation. Surinam's representative, Mr Ludwig Waaldijk, who said elections could be held as early as next year, was asked to clarify whether the government was proclaiming a state of emergency or a state of siege. The panel's independent experts also told him it was highly undesirable to establish special tribunals to try officials of the former regime and asked how the new government would guarantee a fair hearing for those accused. Mr Waaldijk is scheduled to reply later in the present session of the committee, whose task is to examine how individual countries are carrying out their obligations under the international covenant on civil and political rights. [Text] [The Hague ALGEMEEN NEDERLANDS PERSBUREAU in English 19 Jul 80 p 5]

CSO: 3120

URUGUAY

BRIEFS

NEW AUSTRALIAN, YUGOSLAV AMBASSADORS--The new Australian and Yugoslav ambassadors to Uruguay, Malcolm Dan and (Dzavid Emini), respectively, presented their credentials to President Aparicio Mendez during separate ceremonies in the Government House today. [PY240309 Montevideo Radio El Espectador Network in Spanish 1600 GMT 23 Jul 80]

FOREIGN MINISTER LEAVES HOSPITAL--Montevideo, 22 Jul (Telam-DPA)--Uruguayan Foreign Minister Adolfo Folle Martínez returned to Uruguay after undergoing heart surgery in Buenos Aires City. No date for his return to office has been established since he must still undergo a convalescence period. [PY241247 Buenos Aires Telam in Spanish 0331 GMT 23 Jul 80]

AMBASSADOR TO FRANCE--Paris, 17 Jul (AFP)--Enrique Etcheverry Stirling, new Uruguayan ambassador to France, today presented his credentials to President Valéry Giscard d'Estaing. [PY241247 Paris AFP in Spanish 1611 GMT 17 Jul 80]

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